Records of Fort St George

DIARY

AND

CONSULTATION BOOK

OF

1692

Madras (Presidency).

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1917

PREFACE

This volume, which contains the proceedings of Elihu Yale and his Council at Fort St. George for the year 1692, is the eighteenth of the series of "Public Consultations." The original manuscript is in a fair state of preservation.

H. DODWELL,
Curator, Madras Record Office.

14*th June* 1917.

RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

DIARY AND CONSULTATION BOOK

(VOLUME No. 18)

OF

1692.

[*From January 1 to December 30.*]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 169½*——

ATT A CONSULTATION

THURSDAY 29.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDT & GOVERNR
MR WILLM FRASER MR THOMS GRAY.

The Presidents Acct of the Rt Honble Cash for the month of December was read and past the ballance amounting to Pags 39709 : 4 :

Presidents Acct Cash read.

Mr William Frasers Warehouse Acct for the month of December was read and past Errors excepted and paid into Cash Pags 400.

Warehouse-keepr Acct read.

Mr Thomas Gray's Sea Custome Accts for the month of December was read and past Errrs Excepted and paid into Cash Pags 409 : 12 : 71.

Sea Customers Accts read.

Mr Daniel Gyfford's Land Custome Accts for the month of December was read and past Errors Excepted and paid into Cash Pags 310 :

Land Custom accts read.

Mr Thomas Wright Provisionall Paymaster his Accts for the month of December was read and past Errors Excepted and orderd that he do pay Doctor Hart's bill for Physick bought in the last twelve moths amounting to Pags 34 : 13.

Paymasters Accts read. the Surgeons bill be paid.

There arriveing some Ellephants from Tanassaree, the Customer Mr Thomas Gray desire[ing] to know what rate to sett upon [these] to receive custome, It is orderd that they be Vallued as formerly at Pags 400 each.

Ellephants to be rated at [...]

Metchlepatam and Maddapollam factorys being very much out of repair and greatly run to decay, It is orderd that 500 Pags be sent thither to Mr Brough to repair ym.

P. 500 be sent to ye northern factorys to repair ym.

Senr John DeMark an eminent Armenian Merchant being lately arrived from Tanassaree with Tin Copper Tutenague and Ellephants, on whom we are advised, there are Severall of the King of Syams Servants sent from the french Bisshop to Parde Rachees at Pullicherree, to treat with them about there Affaires, and being reported that ye merchants hath brought on the Kings account, two Ellephants and about 150 Chests of Copper which in consideration the King of Syam is Debter to the Rt Honble Company, twas proposed whether an attachment of [said] goods should be made in John DeMarks hands, which if he acknowledges or can be proved otherways, whether we should make seizure or not, by reason the Syam

Exposed to attack ye King of Syams concernes supposed to arrive on an armenian ship.

[29TH.] ——FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 169½——

Affairs are referrd soly to Surrat who we hear have sent the Benjamin to Syam with some other Vessells and [. . .] there.

The Genll accts to be reod from Mr Cheney Oversrs.

The Secretary and Mr Francis Bett are orderd to receive the severall accts relateing the Generall books &a from Mr John Cheneys Overseers.

Rt Houble Comp Corrall agreed to be sold.

The President haveing brought the Merchants to give a considerable price more then what was formerly agreed to by the Councill being 200 Pags ℘ maund the branch Corrall, and 100 for the small Corrall, at which rates tis agreed to be sold to Ranga Chittee &a Partners upon the following tearms and agreement, that they in seaven months time take all away and pay ready money as ye Corrall is deliverd to them, but to be presently weigh'd and accounted to them, the Warehousekeeper keeping one key of the Goedown and the Merchants the other whose Obligation is orderd to be enterd next after this Consultation.

Proposed ye settlement of the Councill. deferrd to further considera-tion.

Mr John Cheney dyeing lately twas according to the Rt Honble Company's orders proposed to the Councill to take the degrees according to Succession which [is] for Mr Fraser to be book keeper and Mr Gray Warehousekeeper, which Mr Fraser refused, the President desired they would consider further upon it, before they gave in their resolves, soe is deferr'd till next meeting.

Brimstone & Salt-peter to be deld to ye Gunpowder makr.

The Warehousekeeper is orderd to deliver the powder maker 6 Candy of Brimstone and 30 Ca: of Saltpeter to make powder for the Garrison and that 50 Pags be advanc't to him.

Ground sold Mr Gray.

A peice of ground joining Mr Gray's garden house near the Rt Honble Compa in the pata, It is agreed it be sold him, he paying the Rt Honble Compa for the same.

Mr Fraser delivering a Paper about ye 100 Pags advised to be wanting in ye Stock sent upon the Orange to Bengll wch is orderd to be further enquird into yt ye Rt Honble Compa may be righted therein & sd paper to be enterd in ye lettr book & answerd by ye Secry, the president again requird yt ye Honble Compa revenues of measureing duty & Banksoll Custo be returned & duly pd into Cash as formerly, but twas disapprov'd by the Councill.

ELIHU YALE.

I earnestly desired my Paper to be read in Councill my witness to be called & said Paper to be registrated in the Consultation book but neither was done however Mr Proby then confessed the truth of that Paper [as] it relates to him, & myself acquited of ye 100 Pa. — WILL: FRASER.

[Ye] Govrs [Acco] cash, as for charge of ye [. . . take it wn Mr ffrazer will . . .]. — THO: GRAY.

Copy of the Corrall Merchants obligation Vzt.

Corrall Merchts. obligatr.

Know all men by these Presents that I Ranga Chettee of Fort St George Merchant do hereby for myself and Partners oblige me my heirs &a to the Rt Honble Compa in the sum̃ of fourty thousand Pagodas to make good my Contract made this day wth their President and Councill for Sixteen boxes of Branch Corrall and Seventeen Chests of raw Corrall Gregio, the first Sort at two hundred Pags and the other at one hundred Pags the maund to receive them all within seaven months after the date hereof paying ready money as I take them away, Wittness my hand and Seal in Fort St George Maddrass this twenty Eighth day of January Ano 1691/2.

The Merchts Mark & Seale.

Signd Seald & deld̃ in the presence of us

TREVOR GAMES.

NICK: WESBURY.

—— FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 169½ ——

Generall from Fort St David of the 26th of January adviseing the receipt of 20
the Treasure and goods sent them by the Brigganteen and remitting us by sd Vessell in Broad cloth fyrewood & charcoal to ye amt of 494 Pa : 23 : 3.

Generall from Messe Richard Trenchfeild and John Pitt from the Camp; FEBRUARY
adviseing of their arrivall, and Visitting Nabob Zullphaker Cawn, and delivery of 9.
the Presidents letter to him, on which he promised to procure the Princes Nashawn and the other Perwanna we desire and to prevaile for the Kings Phyrmaund for their confirmation; The Horse sent Nabob Zullphaker Cawn as a present dyed therd day after their arrivall.

Ship Orange Capt Wm Price arrived ys Evening from Bengall wth a Generall 10.
from the Agent &a Councill there of the 18th Jany Last, accompanying their advices for England intending shortly to dispatch the Bengall Merchant with provisions for this place.

The following Proposall was sent to the Councill for their perusall & approbation.

Ship Orange arriveing yesterday from Bengall scarcely three-quarter loaden & 11.
nothing near the Vallue we sent down upon her, tho they had also large remains of last years Stock, and the Agent &a knew by often advices that we could provide noe cloth here, therefore orderd them to dispatch the Ship to Vizagapatam to take in ye goods in readiness there which are about three or four hundred Bales notwithstanding which they have willfully dispatch't her directly hither to the Honble Compas great disappointmt and Loss for want of those goods, as also the danger of their long lying there, but to repair this neglect Tis orderd that all the round Pepper be weigh'd off and Laden aboard her, as also the few Vizagapatam bales we have by us, which not being Sufficient to fill her, Tis also orderd that all persons are free to lade China goods upon the Rt Honble Companys Permissive tearms, wch if not enough tis orderd that we compleat her Ladeing with Saltpeter & redwood.

ELIHU YALE.

Ship Bôa Vista, Señ Don Theodore Comdr arrived this Evening from 12
Manilla, and brought a Generall from Mr Robt Blackmore at Mallacca of the 10th Jany Last complaining greatly of the Dutch Severity in detaining the Rt Honble Compas concerns at Batavia where he had been endeavouring for redress, but to little effect, they giveing him over to seek his remedy by their Lawes, which he refused, protesting against them for all damages cost and charges, and appealing to their Royall Majesties for redress. Leaveing the goods at their Storehouse in Batavia, so returnd to Mallacca, also advises of a ship bound for Manilla cast away on yt Coast and by violence of weather, the four China Ship viz. the Blessing Jacob Barber Commdr the Mary Stephen Barber, the Morning Star Armiger Goslin ye Curtana, Antony Weltden & 200 China Juncks lost, and that the Citty of Amoy, was under water; but these they refer to further advices, the truth whereof being suspected.

Generall from Thomas Walthrope Commander of the Bencolen Merchant at Mallacca of 30: September Last, repeating his troublesome Voyage and disappointment and is of opinion he shall loose his passage to Tonqueen; being so late of the season & meeting strong contrary Winds.

Generall from Mess̃ Trenchfeild & Pitt at the Camp of the 9th Feby adviseing they have been vissitting the Prince Cawn Bux and the grand Viseer Assid Cawn, who received them very kindly especially the Viseer who told ym they did well in comeing, and that his son had acknowledged our Services to him and the Kings Subjects, and that he would procure the Prince his Nashawn, giveing them his Perwanna, and would write to the King for his Phyrmaund to confirme ye Severall following Articles, promiseing to write to the King in our favour. Vizt.

[12TH] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 169½* ——

TRANSLATE OF THE PETITION PRESENTED TO THE VISEER ASSID CAWN BY ORDER OF THE HON^BLE^ ELIHU YALE & COUNCILL IN BEHALF OF THE R^T^ HON^BLE^ COMP^A^ ℘ RICH^D^ TRENCHFEILD & JOHN PITT FEB^Y^ THE 9TH 1691/2.

1. That we may receive the Kings Phyrm^d^ for our Affaires, under the Kingdoms of Golconda and Vizapore.

2. That the Annuall rent of Pag^s^ 1200 for Madrass & Triblicane may be taken off.

3. That Tandore Pershwak Yegmoor, three small towns near Madrass, whose produce is ab^t^ 300 Pag^s^ ℘ añ wee desire may be given as a gratuity to the Comp^a^ rent free.

4. That we may have liberty to coyne rupees wth ye Kings stamp at Madrass.

5. That according to the favour granted the Dutch of Cabarum free at Metchlepatã which is so much on every ox loading for Golcandah for the King, wee may have the same.

6. That at Vizagapatam the Polligars and Theives, Killing our people & plundering our houses of a great amount in Goods and money, we request that this may be considered of and a small Fortification be permitted us, that for the future we may live without fear.

7. That the Nabob please to give us his Perwanna on the Mutsiddyes at the Mines and in the way, that none presume to oppress or put any obstacle in goeing comeing or buying there.

8. That the Nabob please to give his Perwanna, that none of ye Mutsuddyes betwixt Conimere & Madrass stopp our people or put them to any trouble for way charges or any other pretence.

9. Mr King has been a long time imprisond at Pattana, to clear whom, none has yet heard his petition, We request that the Nabob please to grant his Pyrwanna for clearing him.

13 Letter from Messrs Trenchfeild and Pitt, at the Camp of the 10th Instant, adviseing y^t^ on the 8th they Visitted the Vizeer who receiv'd them very kindly with the present, and the day before, they paid their Visit to ye Prince Cawn Bux delivering the Governours letter, and list of the Presents to him, which he kindly received, and gave them Seerpause & promised them his favour and Nashawn, and on their comeing out sent in the Present; which it seems he liket very well; and for the greater expedition of our buisness, and cause the writeing to be writt fully in our favour, which otherwise they might obstruct, they shall be forc't to give some presents to the Princes Viseer & Nabobs Servants, desireing the Governour and Councills order and approbation thereto.

16 Generall from Fort St David of the 13th Instant desireing a further supply of Long pepper it bearing a good price there, as also some Mortivan Jarrs, to keep their powder in.

By some private letters from Surrat gives us advice of the Dutch Commissary Generall, Adran Van Reed's death, dying off of Bombay, his body carryd to Surrat and there buryd.

18 The Orange being full Laden gave notice thereof by the fyreing off a gunn, and Mr Henry Alford being then aboard the President sent him an order, to muster the ships Company and give his report thereof.

20 Deliverd Capt William Price Command^r^ of Ship Orange his dispatch for England & likewise the Packett for the R^t^ Honble Comp^a^ and the bagg of particular Letters.

21 Capt Wm Price Command^r^ of Ship Orange sett saile this Evening for England.

22 Generall from Messrs Trenchfeild & Pitt at the Camp, with an accompanying one from Emaum Cooly beegue, adviseing that the Prince has

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 169½* ——

granted us Madrass to be rent free wth three other Towns nigh unto it to be under our Goverment, and all other sea ports belonging to us formerly, in the Vizapore and Golcanda Countrey, for the Confirmation of which has promist to write up to the Court to procure the Kings Phyrm[d] :

Generall from Mess[rs]: Trenchfeild and Pitt from the Mogulls Camp at Chingee of the 13 Instant, on receipt whereof the Following Proposalls was sent to the Councill by the President for their perusall and Concurrance Viz[t]. MARCH 16.

Last night receiveing a letter from M[r]: Richard Trenchfeild and M[r]: John Pitt advises that the Prince's Viseers and Nabobs letters are sent up to the King in our favour, for the procureing his Phyrmaund not only for confirmation of the Hon[ble]: Companys Settlements and former priveledges here, but also to free the town from the annuall rent of twelve hundred Pag[s] : to have liberty to coyne Rupees and Gold Mohurrs and the Hon[ble]: Comp[as]; trade to be Custome free throughout this Coast which now is demanded both at Golcandah, Metchlepatam & Gingerlee, and will not be excused without the Kings Phyrmaund to the contrary, which we are now in great probabillity of obtaining by Nabob Zullphakeer Cawn's means, who for his great kindness and trouble therein, Requires Mess[rs] Trenchfeild and Pitts obligation to gratify him with fifteen thousand Rupees upon delivery of said Phyrmaund, demanding twenty thousand Rupees, but they by much perswasions brought him to fifteen thousand and two thousand for Emaum Coolee's great care in the manageing this affaire w[ch] owes much to his abillity and Interest. In consideration whereof and the great Security and advantage Such a Phyrmaund will be to this place and the R[t] Hon[ble] Comp[as] other Settlements and Affaires on y[s] Coast and that farr Less priveledges has cost the Dutch at least a hundred thousand Pag[s]; Wee do therefore agree and order that the Said Summe of fifteen thousand Rupees be engaged to be given to Nabob Zulphakeer Cawn upon delivery of the Kings Phyrmaund to us here, confirming the aforesaid priviledges to the R[t] Hon[ble] Comp[as] also the Two thousand Rupees to Emaum Cooly for his Service herein, otherwise Wee shall hazard the loosing the great charge of the Visitt and present, tho the makeing it, was unavoydable, nextly if we loose y[e] happy oppertunity, I do really beleive, 'twill never be retreived for Tenn tymes y[e] money. 17

ELIHU YALE.

M[r] W[m] Fraser deliverd in the following reasons and consent to the foregoing proposalls viz.

I was allwayes of opinion that the am[t] and extent of the charges agreed upon by his Hon[r] &c[a] for the procureing so ample a Phyrmaund was too narrow & small for so lofty and high spirited people as the Mogulls officers and Ministers of State are they differing much from those of y[e] Morattas that are so hungary and necessitous as to Snapp and catch at anything and prove perfidious in the end, I do therefore, if it cannot otherwise be avoyded or the charge lessned, agree to what his Hon[r] proposes as it is grounded upon M[r] Trenchfeild & M[r] Pitt's letter of the 13th Currant, conditionally, Zulphakeer Cawn &[a] oblige themselves, that the said Phyrmaund soe obtein'd under the Mogulls Chop and hand be so full, firme and substantiall to all intents and purposes in favour to the R[t] Hon[ble] Comp[a] tradeing to the East Indies, as to any other Europe nation whatever, of which can be, not a better pattern for our im[it]ation than the Dutch Phyrmaund so exactly well worded and calculated to any condition chance or accident, that may happen or fall out in the whole Course of their Affaires much differing from that to the french Nation and likewise that all words be expunched out of the rough draught of the said Phyrmaund of any Language, which may Seem to bear two differing Sences or constructions to the Hon[ble] Comp[as] disadvantage, I say I do agree as aforesaid knowing well that the vast and immence charge the Hon[ble] Comp[a] have been at in their late warr against the Mogull, was never designed or aim'd at any other mark then a good Settlement and a free trade in all the Mogulls Dominions.

W.F.

FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 169½

19 Ship Bengall Merchant arrived this day from Bengall wth a Generall from the Agent and Councill there of the 11th Feby Last and a Ladeing of Provisions &^a for Acc^t of the R^t Honble Company.

The following Proposall was sent to the Councill from ye Presd^t.

21 Ship Bengall Merchant arriveing Saturday last from the bay, Loaden wth Saltpeter, Long pepp^r Gunnys Ginger twine Rice wheat butter Oyle and Gram amount as ℘Invoice to rupees 12073 : 13 : 9 : all which the Warehouse-keep^r is orderd carefully to unlade and house, reserving eight months provisions for the Garrison and to make Sale of the rest to the heighth of the markett, and to receive the freight of the particular goods, Laden hither upon her at the accustomary Rates, also to secure Mr Coventry's bale of Goods and Sugar in the Goedown, till he has comply'd with his obligation and then to be deliverd him.

Elihu Yale.

22 Generall from Fort St David of the 19th Instant, adviseing that they have studiously endeavourd to bring the^r Merchants to contract with them for an Investment in Course Long cloth and Sallampores, offering to give the same prices as before in Agent Master's time without an Abatement, ab^t which they are in hopes to come to conclusion with them, and that the Porto Novo Merchants debt to the R^t Honble Comp^a is partly recoverd and the rest remaining under good Security.

Thursday 24

Att a Consultation

Present

Elihu Yale President & Govern^r
Mr W. Fraser
The Councill being duely Summond.

Mr Thomas Gray *Sick.*

The Presidents Acc^t of the R^t Honble Comp^as Cash for the months of January & February was read and past and the ballance to this day examined am^o to Pag^s 25983 : 01 : 5.

Mr Willm Fraser Warehousekeep^r his acc^ts for the months of January and February were read and past Errors excepted and paid into Cash Pag^s one thousand.

Mr Henry Alford Receiver read the Sea Customers Acc^ts for the month of January and paid into Cash Pag^s 2652 : 14 : 15.

Mr Daniel Gyffords Land Custome Acc^ts for the months of January & February were read and past and paid into Cash Pag^s 630 : 0.

Mr Thomas Wright Provisionall Paymaster, read his acc^ts for the month of January, and orderd that Pag^s 1000 be paid him to defray the Garrison Charges.

Tis orderd as before that the Bengall Merchant bought and sent up by Agent Charnock &^a be surveyed and her Condition reported and a list of her stores taken, which if in good condition, tis proposed to send her to Atchein and West Coast for a Ladeing of Pepper and to countenance that place, and if possible to get a freight here for Atchein which is better than to return her to Bengall where she will lye dead and a useless charge to the R^t Honble Company.

According to an order of Last Consultation haveing duely considerd the danger of Attaching the King of Syams goods in Joseph de Mark's hands, since there are many English and Ships now in Syam, which possibly may cost their lives and Estates, besides y^s being a small summe, not exceeding 1500^pa tis thought best not to meddle therein, but take some better oppertunity to right the Honble Company for what due to them.

Severall Persons haveing supply'd the R^t Honble Company with necessarys and raritys for the Present to Prince Cawn Bux &c^a are importunate for payment Tis agreed and orderd that they bring in their List and be paid accordingly.

Sallary being due the 25th Instant Tis orderd that the Acc^t be drawn out and paid accordingly.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE MARCH 169½*—— [24TH]

[Mr William] Fraser continueing his [refusall of his succession] to the Seconds place and bookkeepers imployment rather approveing his present Station, desireing to be excused till further orders from England, but that the weighty buisness of the Generall books and Accts may not be omitted or neglected, The President undertakes the carrying thereon requireing only to his Assistance Mr Francis Bett and Mr Vanden Anchor and for their care and dilligence and continued trouble therein, they haveing little time free from other trade or buisness tis orderd that £10 a year be advanc't to Sd Mr Bett a gratuity as the Secretary has; and £5 to Mr Vanden Anchor to encourage the dilligence which is humbly referrd to the Rt Honble Company, but this allowance to be paid them only dureing their continuance in this Employ and after to those that Shall Succeed them therein with the Rt Honble Compas approbation.

ELIHU YALE.

I deney the Presidents Cash to be the true ballance [The list of the severall] things bought of Severall [℘sons . . .] with [their severall prices . . .] into in councill as formerly [mentioned by . . .] payment be made. W.F.

WILL: FRASER.

In pursuance to the Honble President & Councills order to me to give in a declaration concerning a thousand Pags (Mr Tho Wavell then liveing) pretended he paid into the Rt Honble Company's Cash more than the Accts do make appear, I hereby give this following Viz Twas in or about the month of Novembr 89 the President on recovery of his Sickness sent to Mr Richard Farmer to make up his particular Acct Cash, which upon Examination found a thousand Pags wanting therein, as he then enform'd me, that he had been looking over & compareing his Honrs books but could not find out the mistake and Loss, or whom he Charg'd it to, and about a fortnight after, he importund me to examine the Rt Honble Compas Cash, thinking the President might have possibly made use of it, in the time of his Sickness, as indeed he sometimes us'd to do by giveing out Such a summe for the use of the Garrison or other the like occasion rather than be sometimes put to the trouble of goeing up to the Consultation room & open the Companys Cash Chest for it, to which he always us'd to order me and I well remember I have sometimes repaid him on the Same Acct, and such an occasion might have hapned on this, and his Honr probably forgott to take notice of it in his Acct but Credited the Compas Cash with it, whereupon his Honr orderd Mr Farmer and me to go up and Examine the Rt Honble Comps Cash to see where the mistake layd, which wee accordingly did, and upon examination thereof, found the like summe over & above the ballance of the Acct to this day, which we advised him of, and He (least there should have been a mistake committed in the Acct) orderd me to write to the severall Gentlemen of the Councill to send in their Accts from the time of their commenceing their then employments, to See & compare the Severall Summs they paid in, which accordingly they did, and upon due examination and compareing of them found them to agree exactly with the Presidents Acct of the Compas Cash, and So finding the thousand Pagodas over and above its ballance it was returnd to the President being as I beleive paid out of his own Cash on the Companys Acct as aforesaid & to my knowledge never any question or dispute made thereon, the Accts being duly read & past in Councill, till about February 9th nine months after Mr Wavells leaving and delivery up his charge of the Warehousekeeper to Mr John Cheney he delivers another Particular Acct Cash, which the President in Councill orderd me to compare with his acct & upon examination thereof, found charged in it a thousand Pags more than his former Accts do make appear, which I enformd ye Presidt and Councill of, and recd orders from them to make strict enquirys into it, which I accordingly did, and can no wayes find that

——FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 169½——

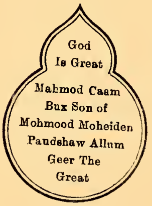
[24TH] ever any more money was paid into Cash, than the Accts do make Mention of, all that has been paid into Cash for these three or four years, was first deliverd to, counted and look't over by the Companys Shroffs, and the amount thereof enterd & put into ye Cash Chest, and how this mistake should come, I cannot tell, nor can I immagine how it came to be chargd, which if I did I should not have wrongd him or his, but am afraid that him whom he too much trusted in that buisness did him the injury, which is all I can say to this matter.

WILLIAM PROBY Secy.

Haveing advice of Mr Richd Trenchfeild Mr John Pitt, Emaun Cooley &ca being near Pullamallee and that they will be here tomorrow, the President intends to meet and treat them at the Honble Campanys new garden in due honour and
[APRIL] 18. respect to the Prince's Neshawn and See[r]pawes as also to those from the Grand Viseer and great [Nabob] which if it should be omitted would be resented a great affront to them and possibly injure or impeed our obtaining the Kings Phyrmaund, which now they assure us of, and must be procured by their favour & assistance, therefore most necessary to oblige them all we can till we are secure of it, wherefore notice was given to all the Rt Honble Companys Servants and others that have horses or can borrow them to attend the President to the garden tomorrow morning, the noise whereof will soone reach the Camp to our reputation and the Princes &a Satisfaction, which is likewy[se] Emaun Cooleys earnest desire and advice.

Mr Richard Trenchfeild, Mr Jno Pitt with Emaum Cooley Beague &a arriveing this Evening from the Princes Camp before Chingee, the President went to meet them at the Rt Honble Compas new garden attend[ed] wth a gaurd of Foot Company of
19. Soldiers and a small party of horse, with peons Talliars &a accustomary Ceremony of musick &a for the receiving the Princes Neshawns & Seepawes and the Viseers severall Perwannas and Tasheriffs, when after wellcomeing Emaun Cooley &ca with Eleven gunns and being vested with the Princes Seepawes upon receipt of the Neshawn with due Sallams, Saluted it with three Volleys of small shott, twenty-one pieces of ordnance, next the grand Viseer's Phyrwanna with fifteen peices, Nabob Zulphaker Cawns with thirteen & Nabob Allemerde Cawn with Eleven gunns after which the three Piscash't horses were deliverd, that from the Prince coverd wth a Velvet State cloth and furniture the head stall and Crupper imbost with plated gold as likewise the Viseer's horse, and Nabob Zullphaker Cawns with Silver furniture all which with their trappings, the Governr orderd to the Rt Honble Companys Stable for their account and Service, he rideing home on his own In the Mogulls habbit the more to honour and please the Prince and his people that accompanyed the ꝑsents and Neshawns &a who take particular notice and account of all actions, The true translates whereof being enter'd in their due order as followes on the other Sides viz.

The Great Chopp.



TRANSLATE OF THE NESHAN OF PRINCE SULTAN MAHAMOD CAAM BUX TO THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. GEORGE &A.

In the name of God Great & Mercyfull.
By the Authority of Mahmood Moheideen Paudshaw Allum Geer the Conquerer.

The Neshan of Prince Mahmood Caam Bux.

To the Excellent in Countenance and Chosen in great favour Elihu Yale President, Governour and Captaine, hope and depend on the Emperours favour and protection, and be it known to You.

Your Arzdast about your Service to Asker Cawn and others of the Emperors Servants, The sending amunition of war to Zulphakar

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1692*—— [19TH]

Cawn Bahadurs Camp—Your petition to be free from Custome and Rent, and liberty for a mint and other affair is received, the Piscash you sent is brought to our Presence.

Wee are highly pleased with the service y° did in the time of the Rebellion to y[e] Emperors Servants.

The Present you sent us Wee have accepted and to demonstrat our favour, Wee have sent Cloths and our own horse to advance Your Hon[r] and respect.

Your Petition for a mint with the fortunate Stamps of the Emperors—Wee have granted You.

The other favours and a Phyrmaund as you request we have writ to the Emperour about, therefore be you fully assured and send amunition to the Army and in all other Occasions manifest your readiness to serve the Emperour, What Merch[ts] or other people shall come to or goe from your place let y[m] be kindly dealt with w[ch] will be to your Credit and Esteem.

If there be any choice Raritys fitt for the view of the Emperour or Jewells or other things send them to us, which Wee will buy, for to send before the great Presence Dated this Twentyfifth of Jemaydillasays in the thirtyfifth year of the Reigne.

TRANSLATE OF A PHYRWANNA FROM NAFOB ASSID CAWN THE GRAND VISSEER TO THE HON[BLE] ELIHU YALE GOVERNOUR OF CHINNAPATAM.

May you ever continue constantly dilligent in the Kings service, The Petition which you sent the Prince and your letter to mySelf we received and the Petition I presented in a good time, and he has likewise sent you his Nesshan, which you may receive and Esteem as a very great honour Your good Services and intentions, Zullphaker Cawn has particularly enform'd us of, wherefor I write and advise that you Still continue carefull in the Kings Service that you may reap the benefitt & advantages of your good performances and that you endeavour, rather to be more earnest to embrace all such oppertunitys and to avoyd all neglects and delayes in any matter relateing thereto, And if that ill unfortunate fellow Rama should offer to make his escape by sea let him by noe means effect it, but endeavour to intercept and take him, which will be a most Singular & acceptable peice of Service to the King.

I have made my request to the King about procureing You your Phyrmaund, and be assured that in all your buisiness I hold a freindly and favourable remembrance of You, I have now sent you a habbit and a horse with Gold furniture dated the 9th of the Month of Jamaudee lauhere in the thirtyfifth year of the Reigne.

TRANSLATE OF A PHYRWANNA FROM NABOB ZULLPHAKER CAWN BAHADOO[R] TO THE HON[BLE] ELIHU YALE PRESIDENT & GOVERN[R] OF CHINNAPATAM.

May you ever continue in the Kings favour, I rec[d] yours and observe the contents the Petition to the Prince & Assid Cawn I deliv[d] them, and also introduc't your people M[r] Trenchfeild &[a] to their presence and have acquainted them with your buisness and desire to Serve the King, The things you sent I have presented and have particularly Inform'd the Nabob in favour of your Affaires wherefore Your Hon[r] must be sure for the future to make it your Study to be rather more carefull and dilligent in the King's service and advise me of your matters, The request and priveledges you desire as likewise w[t] your Vakeels discourst me of I have writ up about.

TRANSLATE OF A PPHYRWANNA FROM NABOB ALLIMERDE CAWNE TO THE HON[BLE] ELIHU YALE PRESIDEN[T] & GOVERN[R] OF CHINNAPATAM.

I rec[d] yours which came by M[r] Trenchfeild with your Present to y[e] Prince which were very wellcome and which I am very glad of, I shall acquaint of your good Services and for your buisness I shall discharge myself therein as a freind, I rec[d] two feild peices and other things, tho your friendship I vallue beyond all, yet receive your present thankfully, I have Tashereeft all those that belong to

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1692*——

Your Honour, I would desire you to esteem me as Your freind & therefore often acquaint me of your health I intend shortly to send a suit befitting Your Hon^{r} I have now sent one gold pe^{s} of Zurbaff and one Gold Linsole which please to accept.

Translate of a Phyrwanna from Nabob Assid Caun the grand Viseer to the Honble Elihu Yale Govern^{r} of Madrass Chinnapatam.

You ever continue dilligent and constant in the Kings Service Your Vakell acquaint me that you desire the priveledge of the Kings Chop to your Mint, which is the most happy Chopp I write this therefore that after the arrivall of these Chops and Phyrwanna, You may begin to coyne Gold Mohurs Pag^{s} & rupees of which you may send me Musters, that I may See them, which you must be sure to doe accordingly.

Translate of a Phyrwanna from Nabob Allemerde Cawn to the Honble Elihu Yale Governour of Chinnapatam.

May your Hon^{r} ever continue dilligent in the Kings Service yor Vakeel inform me, that you are desireous of a mint with the Kings most fortunate Chop and they likewise told me they would also Procure Nabob Assid Caun Ꝑwanna for it for the coyning Rupees Mohurs and Pago^{s} I therefore write that accordingly upon the great Nabobs Phyrwanna you may coyne sending up Musters, which you must be sure to doe without faile, dated in the month of Shaubon in the 35th year of the Reigne.

Translate of Dustuck from Nabob Assid Caun the Grand Viseer to all Phowsdars Governours & Officers of all Gaurds beginning at Madrass and to be of Force to the Extent or distance of the Dyamond Mines.

All English belonging to Madras or under that Government, who are upon the buisness of their trade or not to be troubled or in any kind molested, in their Passing or Repassing, but are to be conveyd and safely conducted by all such Officers & Governours as above mentiond from each particular Officers Goverment till their arrival to the next, which every one of y^{o} : must observe, punctually to discharge dated March 18 : 169½ the 10th of the Moth Rajub in the 35th year of the Kings Reigne.

Translate of a Phyrwanna from Nabob Assid Caun to all Officers who are now or may be hereafter imployd at the Dyamond Mines.

This is to give you to understand that Vakeels of the English Govern^{r} of Madrass have informd me that they would buy Dyamonds of the Merchants there or at the Mines as usually tho now I hear you do obstruct and hinder them without any Reason for, therefore I write this, that on Receipt hereof, you may forbear any further unreasonably disturbing them if in their buying and Selling, they do act according to former Customes in y^{t} kind, and you must be sure to act according to this writeing dated the 24th of the month Jamaudee laun Sannee in the 35th year of the Kings reigne. March 31th 1692.

Translate of Dustuck from Nabob Assid Caun the Grand Viseer directed to all Phowsdar Governours and Officers from Madras to Conimere.

You are not in any kind to molest or disturb any English travailing or passing from Madrass towards your parts, but are to be by you Safely conveyd and conducted from each particular Officers Goverment till their Arrivall at the next, which you are punctually to observe according to the contents of this writeing. dated the 10th of the Month Rajub in the 35th year of the Kings reigne.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1692*——

COPPY OF NABOB ASSID CAUNE THE GRAND VISEER'S PHYRWANNA TO MUSTAPHA COOLEY CAUNE SEER LASCAR OF THE COAST OF GINGERLEE DATED 7TH OF THE MOTH RAJUB.

You may expect the Kings favour and understand Viz: The English Cheifs Vaquell at Vizagapatam have acquainted me that their factory has bin assaulted and rob'd by theives and Polligars, when they lost much goods and Severall of their people their lives, that therefore for their Security they desire the building a small Fortification I therefore write you this, that upon Arrivall of this Phyrwanna you enquire into the truth of this matter, and that you take such care, that their people may continue without any manner of disturbance or molestation, and that the Polligarrs &c^a^ may restore the goods wch they plunderd from them, I have not else to write you.

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R^ PRESIDENT AND GOVERN^R^
M^R^. WILL^M^ FRASER.
M^R^. THOMAS GRAY *Sick.*

The Presidents Acc^t^ Cash for the month of March was read and past the ballance amounting . . . Pag^s^ 26005 : 15 : 0.

Emaum Cooley Beage yesterday delivering the President Six Iron Chopps or Stamps for coynage Viz^t^ Two for Gold Mohurs, two for Pagodas and two for Silver Rupees sent us by Prince Mahmood Cawn Bux and the grand Viseer Assid Cawn with their Nasshan and Presents, ordering and granting us Liberty to coyne them, the said stamps were accordingly deliver'd to Mr Nath^ll^ Stone Essay-Master and the mint braminee and Shroffs with order to Coyne to the vallue of a hundred Pag^s^ of each coyne, which when finished, Tis orderd they be solemnly proclaimed throughout the Garrison & Citty according to the Custome of the Country for new coyne with the addition of great Guns in Honour to the Prince's Nashan and the Viseers Phyrwanna for the authoriseing of them and the Mint, which must be read in Moors and other Languages.

The Warehousekeeper is therefore orderd to buy as much Gold and Silver as will serve for that occasion and deliver it to the Essay Master.

Mr William Fraser Warehousekeep^r^ paid into Cash Pag^s^ four hundred for goods Sold by him.

Mr Nathaniel Stone Essaymaster paid into Cash Pag^s^ one thousand for acc^t^ of Silver coynage.

Mr Daniel Gyfford, Land Customer read his Acc^ts^ for the month of March and paid into Cash Pag^s^ four hundred & ninety.

Mr Thomas Wright Provisionall Paymaster his Acc^ts^ for the month of Feby were read and past Errors excepted, and orderd that he hasten builders and Carpenters in building some new Butteeks near the rest, they being proffitable to the Company.

Capt James Betts deliverd in a report or account of the cloth deliverd & sold for these severall years to the Officers and Soldiers which is orderd to be examined and registerd in our books for fuller Satisfaction of what has been deliverd and paid on that acc^t^.

Mr John Pitt Prov^ll^ Storekeeper his Acc^ts^ for the months of November Decr and January was read and past Errors Excepted, and Mr Matthew Empson who managed that buisness in his abscence likewise read his monthly Acc^ts^ currant, which was past, but Mr John Pitt desireing to continue his Storekeepers Employ Mr Empson is order'd to assist the searcher at the Sea Custom house, and Mr Vicessimus Griffith to be Steward in his Place.

—— FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1692. ——

[27TH] The Storekeeper is orderd to buy as many trucks and Planks to make new Carriages for gunns, many of the old ones being greatly dammag'd & worne out.

The Rebecca being arrived from Persia wth fruits Rosewater &a: very acceptable Refreshment in a hott Camp, Tis therefore orderd that presents thereof be sent to the Prince Viseer &ca: before Chingie to remind and oblige their hast & dilligence in procureing and Sending us the King's Phyrmaund as promist.

ELIHU YALE.
WILL: FRASER.

WILLIAM PROBY Secy

TRANSLATE OF AN OBLIGATION OR AGREEMENT GIVEN AND MADE BY MS RICHARD TRENCHFEILD AND MR JOHN PITT TO NABOB ZULLPHAKER CAWN.

I Mr Trenchfeild and I Mr Pitt Vaquels to the Honble Elihu Yale English Governour of Chinnapatam do by this writeing confess and acknowledge Twelve thousand Rupees of Allumgeer, after the receipt of our Phyrmaund granting such priviledges as in our petition mention'd to be by us deliverd to Zullphaker Cawn which according to this our promise and agreement on the receipt of such a Phyrmd we Shall deliver, but if we receive not Such a Phyrmaund, as above mentiond, that this writeing to be Void and of none effect.

List of such Priveledges are to be granted by this Phyrmaund.

1. That the Twelve hundred Pagodas wch is now paid yearly for the rent of Madrass and Triblicane be taken off.

2. And that in Metchlepatam Cobadum to be wholy taken off.

3. And that in Golcandah and Vizapoor Countreys all our Settlements there that are Seaports Shall pay no manner of Custome.

4. There are to be given to us three townes Viz., Tandore, Purshawacca and Yegmore.

5. That Liberty of a mint shall be granted to Chinnapatam.

MAY 20. This day arrived the Dorothy Capt James Thwaites Commander from Bombay, & brought the baggs of Particular letters ashoar, but the packett from the Rt Honble Company remaind aboard, till orders from the Honble President and Councill for the bringing it ashoar.

21. This morning Sent an order to Capt James Thwaites to bring the Rt Honble Compas Packett ashoar.

There being a great want of Medicines in this Garrison and St Davids and Mr Barwell haveing brought Some fresh good druggs from Persia the Doctors are orderd to examine and buy them.

The President delivered in the following Paper, his reasons for Suspending Mr Daniel DuBois at Vizagapatam:—

Frauds and Errors Committed by Danl Duboise in the Rt Honble Compas Affaires at Vizagapatam.

First—That in their Generall books, letter R. folio 20, he wrongfully gives the Merchts Credit upon the Honble Compa for Pags 3394 : 5 : 5 : for goods they sent to be Secured in the factory but was forceably Seizd upon by the Seer Lascr and therefore ought to have been the Merchts Loss and not the Comps and again in fol: 21 in the Same case he Credt said Merchts Pags 504 : for broad cloth and Europe goods deposited in the Comps factory for Security, wch were likewise Seizd upon by the Seer lascar, but wrongfully charged to the Comps Loss: his presents and Servants wages extravagantly great much exceeding the former.

Then in books letter H : fol : 2 he likewise Credits Charles Fleetwood Pags 27: 14 : 4 for Goods Seizd upon by the seer lascar. In Folio 3 he creddits Severall more Merchants for Broad clõ to the amount of 300 and od pags contrary to the Companys rules and orders, wch commonly prove bad debts, and in folo 4 is charged Pags 143 : 18 : fa : for his and Mr Focquetts Charges overland to Vizagapatam, which could not in reason cost half Soe much.

FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1692.

[21ST].

In fol: 12: he lent to two Mooremen Pag^s 333: 12: fa: upon their bills without any reason given for So doing, and being contrary to the Comp^as possitive orders, who require their money to be invested in goods and not to be lent to make desperate debts.

The Same extravigancy he committs for the mantaining of Mr Browns Elleph^ts and horses Pag^s 264: Trusts a moorman Pag^s 22: 12: fa: for Broad cloth.

In fol^o 17: he makes Charges Extraord^y D^r to Cash Pag^s 1216: 24: fa: without giveing the least reason for it, but Suppose it may be about that notorious buisness of Seizing & protecting from the Government two Dutch Pyrat runnagadoes that had offerd themselves to the Moors to be circumcisd which M^r DuBois endeavouring vainly to prevent willfully brought that trouble and Charge who being forreigners did more concerne the Dutch Cheifs Zeal and care then his and therefore cannot by noe reason or Justice be charged upon the Company, being occasion'd by his own inconsiderate passion.

Fol: 18: lent out of the Honble Comp^as Cash to the Fousdar of Chiccacull Pag^s 100 without any reason given for it, in said fol^o is 58 Pa: Charges Extraordinary besides a large mo^s expence and a moorman trusted for Pag^s 40:

Fol: 27: is Pag^s 146: 28: fa: paid out of Cash upon very Strange particulars, said to be due in M^r: Stables time.

Fol: 28: the Comp^a is charg'd for M^r DuBois's Journey from Ganjam Pa: 6: 12: fa: thus far in the Generall books, 9^o_1.

And near a ¼ part of the last Journalls in Acc^t Presents to Severall persons amounts to Pag^s 1100: 35: 3: without reason.

The following noat to Mr Jno Focquet under his own hand writeing about that clandestine makeing use of the Comp^as goods and Sending Broadcloth in Casks to Bengall for his particular acco^t Viz^t.

M^r. FOCQUET.

I cannot approve the way you mention, because notice has been given yet to the Agent of it, besides tis my opinion we cant Send cloth down on the H. Comp^as Acc^t wth out direction from the Fort.

Y^rs
D. D. B.

These are the foregoeing frauds and Errours that are wittnessd by his own hand & books, therefore need no other proof to convict him therein, besides which there is many charges against him by Mr Focquet, Mr Owen and many others for Severall considerable wrongs done the Honble Company, which must be enquired into and redrest.

For these apparent injuryes I suspended Mr Dubois to prevent his further imbezlem^t of the R^t Honble Companyes Estate there, till a Cheif should be sent down to examine ye other complaints against him, which was but necessary and just to them and very favourable to him, their Hon^rs repeated order being possitively to expell all such unfaithfull Servants, notwithstanding which the Councill have opposed me and protected and encouraged him therein.

ELIHU YALE.

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present:

THURSDAY 26.

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESIDENT & GOVERN^R
MR NATH: HIGGINSON MR W^M FRASER
MR THOMAS GRAY.

The Councill being duely summond.

The Councill mett and the R^t Honble Comp^as Severall Packetts opend and their Commission of the [*blank*] of [*blank*] and the Severall Generalls read, and according to their Hon^rs orders and Commission Mr Nath^ll Higginson willingly and Gratefully accepted the Secondship and took place accordingly, and the

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1692*———

allowance and attendance of that Station orderd him, and the Rt Honble Companys packetts to the bay, West Coast, and Tonqueen, is orderd to be forwarded with all expedition as oppertunity offers.

The Ladeing and dispatching the Dorothy Friggot directly home for England from this Place, was proposed to the Councill but our Resolves thereon referr'd to further considerations.

Mr Nathaniel Higginson presenting a bill drawn on us by the President & Councill of Surrat for Pags: 154 : 09 : payable to Mr John Beard, It is orderd to be pd: accordingly.

The Secretary is orderd to acquaint Mr Nicks, that the Honble Company have dismist him their Service this day.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.
THO: GRAY.

28 Generall from Fort St David of the 25th Instant, adviseing of a Ships arrivall att Pullicherry, beleiveing her to be a french Vessell come from Goa.

29 Mr Henry Alford dyed this Evening, leaveing his Estate by Will, onehalf to his wife the other to his two daughters, Mr Nathaniel Higginson and Mr John Pitt Overseers.

Generall from Fort St David of the 26th Inst adviseing the Ship arrived at Pullicherry to belong to the french came directly from France the beginning of November last named the Postillion of 18 Guuns and 40 men, but as yet could not learn wt more of them are comeing out.

[JUNE] TUESDAY 7

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDENT & GOVERNR:
MR NATHANL HIGGINSON MR WM FRASER
MR THOMAS GRAY.

The Presidents Acct of the Rt Honble Compas Cash for the months of Aprill and May were read and past [,] the Cash examined [,] amt Errors Excepted . . . Pags 14581 : 29 : 5

Mr Wm Fraser Warehousekeeprs Accts for the month of Aprill was read and past Errors excepted as also the Warehous remains and paid into Cash Pags four hundred.

Mr Thomas Gray Mint Acct dureing his time of that charge, was read and past Errrs excepted and paid into Cash Pags 264 said to be the ballance, Mr Nath: Higginson Mintmaster is orderd to examine his Accts.

Mr Richard Trenchfeild & Mr Jno Pitt deliverd in their Accts and dyary of their expedition to Prince Cawn Bux which were deliverd to the Councills perusall and past Errors excepted.

Mr Richard Trenchfeild being returnd from his negotiation wth Prince Cawn Bux at the Camp, wherein we must do him the right to commend his prudent management therein, but there being a Scruple made whether he should be entertaind and continued in the Rt Honble Companys Service, The Severall Paragraphs concerning his Restoration Viz: 41th of the Generall ℔ the Chandois dated 15th february 1688/9 and the 21 of the Generall ℔ the Dorothy dated 18th february 1690/1 wch being perused and debated the Councill were all of opinion that, the Company did not intend to take him into their Service nor give us power to do it, but the President was of another opinion, Since if the Rt Honble Compa designd to have dismist him they would have Said soe, and not only prohibit our settling

——FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692——

him in Bengall, nor that neither in case of the Agents mortallity, however being out voated, Mr Trenchfeild was sent for and acquainted with his dismission from the R^t Honble Comp^s Service their buisness and allowances.

The Warehousekeeper is orderd to putt up a bill on the Seagate to give notice that all persons have liberty to trade upon ship Bengall Merchant at the accustomary frei^ts to be dispatcht by the 24th Instant and that they do apply themselves to him for his order for what they shall lade.

From late letters we received from Fort St David they acquaint us they had made a contract with their Merchants for an Investment in course goods to the amount of Ten thous^d Pag^e which we do well approve of & further agree that they endeavour to bring their Merchants to encrease it to fifteen or twenty thousand if possible, most to be brought in by September next and all by the first of January, Our Merchants were also discourst about an Investment of thirty or fourty thousand Pag^s but they Seem to stand upon the Dutch prices and musters and half to be in fine goods, but this is Referrd to further consideration, and they orderd to hasten their resolves therein.

The R^t Honble Company haveing orderd the Conimere blue cloth to be sent home, tis orderd that the Warehousekeep^r &c^a do send for the Dyars and open them and new beat and make them up, and those that are faded to be new dyed and after laden on the Dorothy for England.

Mr Daniel Gyfford Pro: Land Custom^rs Accts for the month of Aprill was Read and past and paid into Cash Pag^s 525 : 00 : 0.

Mr Tho: Wright Pro: Paymasters Acct^s was Read and past Err^rs Excepted & orderd that a thousand Pag^s be paid him to defray the Garrison Charges.

The R^t Honble Company haveing in their Generall by the Dorothy orderd the dismission of all those that received and Sorted that cloth of the last Investment at Conimere, Mr Daniel Gyfford then Warehousekeep^r of that factory, whose particul^r charge it was to Sort from the Merchants and his ticketts were in most of the bales, was sent for and acquainted with their Hon^rs pleasure and dismission of him from their Service and orderd to deliver up his Acct^s and books to the Secretary.

The Paragraph of the R^t Honble Comp^s Generall relateing the disbanding one Company of foot Soldiers and reduceing them to their former pays, as to the first we have Spared a considerable number of Soldiers, exceeding a foot Company to St David Bombay Bencolen and Bengall, not haveing above Seventy European Sentinalls in ye Garrison, and about a hundred and fifty Topassas, which are not near Sufficient to gaurd half the Garrison well and the french fleet being dayly expected on the Coast, we are not only necessitated to deviate from the Comp^s orders in this matter, but tis agreed and orderd y^t the Paymaster do entertain as many more Europeans as he can till the President shall Judge it Safe to follow the Comp^s orders herein and as for the Soldiers pay, the Governour has reduc't it as formerly near these two years past as Soon as the Soarness of the Famine & Scarcity was over with us.

Ensigne Del Gardnere is readmitted to his Ensigns Employ of the Garrison and Ensigne Bowdler orderd in his to Fort St David, they much wanting such an Offic^r.

The Receivers place being now Vacant by Mr Henry Alfords decease and wanting an Experience [d] Person in that buisness & tho the President cannot well Spare him yet upon this urgent occasion Mr Wm Proby late Secretary is orderd and appointed Receiver of the Customes, and that he wait upon the Widdow Alford to demand and receive what moneys she has of the R^t Honble Comp^s received by her deceased husband upon Customes, which the Custo^r reports to be about five or Six thousand Pag^s.

Capt James Thwaits makeing his request for 20 Tonns of Saltpeter, for Quintellage for his Ship allowd him by Charterparty, the Warehousekeeper is orderd to weigh & Send So much off to Stiffen his Ship.

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692* ——

[7TH] The Presidents answer to a paper deliverd him last Consultation day by Mr Wm Fraser and Mr Thomas Gray about Vizagapatam factory both which are orderd to be enterd next after this Consultation.

ELIHU YALE.

Mr Trenchfeild's & Mr Pitt's accots were onely referred to peruseall. The Generall by the Dorothy do's not take Mr Trenchfeild into the Rt H. Compas Service, nor dismisse him, if the Presidt had power by his particular Letter to take him in. It is not agreed to deviate from the Compas Orders till the President Shall thinke fitt to follow them, but to deferr disbanding till the danger is past from the expected ffrench Fleet. } NAT: HIGGINSON.

July 26: I agree with Mr Higginsons as to the above writen. The acco present Mr Trenchfeild, &c acco Expence in their negosiation to the Camp the President, Paper I shall answer in writing more at large, to be addressed to the President & Council. } WM FRASER.

The Council delliverd the foll paper to the President Vzt:

TO THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE ESQR
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNR OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honrd Sr

Your Honr haveing by Your letter beareing date 10th March dismist Mr Daniel du Bois the Rt Honble Companys Service, by a power pretended to be received from their Honrs to transact their affaires singly, wth out approbation of their Councill sending order to Mr Jno Focquet & Mr Samuel Owen to demand the Companys Factory and Estate at Vizagapat which order of your Honrs could not be comply'd with by Mr Daniel Dubois, without breach of his indentures, whereby he is obliged to follow no other than the orders of Your Honr and Councill jointly, by whom he and Mr Focquet were sent to take charge of that Factory as ℔ Consultation of the 17th Septembr 1690 and therefore refused to resigne his charge which so angred Mr Focquet and Owen, that they Seperated from him, tho they were orderd to assist in the Comps buisness, keeping peons, drums &a forceing the Comps Merchts to come before them, where your orders were read, and the Merchts commanded upon their Perrill to carry noe more of ye Comps Investment contracted for into the factory to Mr DuBois, but finding this could not effect what he aimd at, the fingering the Comps Estate, they had recourse to more wicked practices, addressing themselves to the Countrey Goverment requesting him by force to Seiz Mr Dubois and place them in the factory, a practice (till now framed by Your Honr, never before heard of, and like to prove of most pernitious consequence to the Honble Compas trade in those parts as their orders to the Merchants have been, they readily obeying to the ruine of the Investmt all these inconveniencys might have been prevented if Your Honr would have complyd with the vote of the Councill for the sending Mr James Wheeler, (whose right it was) thither, when Mr Charles fleetwood accused Mr DuBois of unfaithfullness, or if you would have consented to or request which was upon first receipt of Mr Owens Charge against Duboise for sending abrd the Comps goods useing their Cash and to have sent for them up, one to make Good his Charge, and the other to answer to it, Sending Some betters managers in their Roome, but Your Honr put a deaf ear to all things ever proposed by the Councill, telling them Your power was absolute which they often demanded a sight of that they might no longer insist upon ye Compas known orders but give ready Obedience to Your Honr, but you still refus'd to produce, either Commission or Letter from whence you could derive your pretended Authority, declareing your words to be sufficient, which we are in nowise obliged to creddit, in matters relateing to ye Honble Compas Affaires, and do therefore (least we should be thought consenting to your irregular Actions, of which we have

always exprest a dislike to your Honr hereby declareing you answerable for all damages; ye Compa or any private person have sustaind or may hereafter Sustain at Vizagapatam or elcewhere, by your giveing orders wthout our knowledge or approbation which you have frequently practiced, thereby occasioning all the distractions at Vizagapatam, dated in Fort St George May 26th 1692.

WILLM: FRASER.
THOMS: GRAY.

THE PRESIDENTS ANSWER TO MESSRS. FRASER AND GRAYS PAPER OF YESTERDAY.

What I orderd about Mr DuBois was in pursuance of the Rt Honble Comps orders and for the honr and Security of their Settlemt and estate at Vizagapatam, which lay in great danger of Ruine and embezlement by Mr DuBois his notorious arbitrary & Fraudulent actions, which that he might perpetrate with more freedome & Secrecy most Violently and impudently expells Mr Samuel Owen from the Honble Compas factory and buisness without any Authority or Reason for it, he being sent down by us in joint Commission with him & Mr Focquett and by his fidellity & dilligence had not only got in the Compas investment which was much behindhand, but also brought up the Factory Accts to this time which were in great distraction by long neglect for which and to prevent ye discovery of his further abuses to the Honble Compa Mr Dubois unwarrantably & audaciously by force turns him out of the Factory from his accomodations and allowances and from the charge of the Warehouse we had appointed him to, breaking open his Chamber and Chests, Seizing upon his Paper[s] Cloths and money and binding Mr Focquet upon his Cott, ordering the peons to Chaubuck him, and as they write sometime after to kill him, which they attempted & had effected, had not he shelterd himself in a near house to the factory, whether they followd him with their naked Swords; of these unsufferable actions and frauds I have often acquainted you, urgeing his dismission which you were not only deaf to, but seemd more inclined to defend and protect him in his miscarriages than remedy or redress them, which necessitated me to suspend him (till a Cheif was sent down by us) to prevent his further embezlemt of the Rt Honble Compas estate, [tho there] was sufficient reason to have expelld and confin'd him for his unfaithfullness, according to the Hon Comps repeated orders in such cases, which is apparent in the many false fraudulent and extravagant entrys in the Generall books he sent us up, which I collected from them in a former paper, as also by a note under his own hand which proves his clandestine sending a quantity of the Honble Compas goods upon his own private Acct and advantage to Bengall on the Dyamond Friggot and Sloop Thomas.

These are such undenyable instances of his unfaithfullness as needs no further proof but their perusall to convict him of it, besides the many other charges and complaints agst him by Mr Focquet and Mr Owen the Merchts and Inhabitants, and others for severall wrongs done the Honble Compa carry two great a probabillity of truth and must be justly examined, but instead of obeying my order he contemns and bids defyance to them turning Mr Focquet also out of the factory and when they both desired admission fairly to discourse him he forbids them entring into the factory, shuts the gates & orders the great gunns to be fired upon them mounts a great gun upon the house, entertains 100 peons for his defence, proclaiming himself Cheif against all authoritys whatever, and this he tells Mr Focquet and Mr Owen he does by encouragemt & order from the Fort, which if true must be from your Selves, Since I never gave, consented to or know of any such orders Sent hence, Tis true the Honble Compa impower'd me to act Some of their affaires Singly, if I thought fitt, but I know of no orders they ever gave you to act or give orders seperate from me and I am sure that such irregular actions formerly would have been esteem'd little less then Rebellion, but I know not how yo construe them.

And for his accusations agst Messrs Focquet and Owen &a they are certainly meer fictions and forgerys of his wicked brain, only to cloak and Stifle his Vicious

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692*——

practices, all other advices Speaking the contrary to what he writes, my orders to y^{m} being to act or offer nothing forceably nor make any disturbance least ye Goverm^{t} should take advantage thereof to the Honble Comp^{s} prejudice and only to Secure the Honble Comp^{s} estate from Embezlem^{t} which they write me they have strict Regaurd to.

Then for his importunate perswasions to withdraw and dissolve that Factory (contrary to the Honble Comp^{s} possitive orders) upon idle falce pretences meerly out of designe to stifle the discovery of his knaverys nor has his desire of comeing up hither to be examined any other end than to baffle the distant testimonys.

Tis true some of you talkt of Mr Wheeler going down Cheif but that I could not consent to, for the following Reasons, first that the Honble Company have orderd us not to employ him in any place of trust by reason of his notorious unfaithfullness at Pettipollee to their great prejudice, which is still unsatisfyed and you know the only reason of entertaining him was upon Mr Littletons importunity to assist in bringing up the books, which he does very slowly and Slitely. Secondly the near allyance of Uncle and Nephew, twixt Mr Wheeler and Mr Dubois makes him an unfitt person to examine his couzins miscarriages, since it may well [be] suspected their freindship will incline to favour.

Nextly Mr Wheelers frequent intemperance renders him unfitt to be at the head of any publick affair, it makeing him and his authority very troublesome and Ridiculous to the Natives and the people under him.

But you know I long since offer'd the Cheifship to Mr Alford Mr Holcomb and Mr Pitt, who all refused it desireing to be excused, since their familys and engagements here would not permitt their Removall, and tho the Honble Comp^{a} had appointed Mr Hatsell Cheif at Vizagapatam, who being Settled at St David and very serviceable there, twas thought fitt not to alter his Station, so that we were necessitated thus long to wait for a fitt person to Send thither.

As to what you say of my deafness to your Councills (or Rather contradictions) I must tell you (for the world know it) they have been very pernitious to the Honble Company interest and the good of this place, and if Gods blessing upon my care and conduct had not prevented would have Ruined all long since, and I can Say this truth also, that Your willfull littigious obstructing oppositions has prevented and hindred me from doing the R^{t} Honble Comp^{a} many more good Services then I have done, and possibly the Omission may reflect upon me tho no occasion of it, nor can your Wisdomes informe or instruct me in the R^{t} Honble Comp^{as} buisness or interest in India, You being but of Yesterday know So little of my charge, that You scarcely understand or act anything of your own, but as y^{o} have often told me, what I have minded you of your buisness, that you were not writeing or Scribling books & Acc^{ts} but only inspection and Speculation to oversee and Rule.

I never told you I was absolute nor any thing more than what the Honble Comp^{s} letter told you only this that notwithstanding that Authority the Honble Company had intructed me wth I should act nothing therein without your approbation nor have I Singly orderd or acted any thing materiall without your concurrance except in this buisness of Mr Dubois which was so Just & necessary that I must still confirm it.

And my Testimony herein is the Consultation book notwithstanding your many affronting littigious exceptions.

And so Returning the declaration upon You, that you are answerable for all damages the Hoñ Comp^{a} may Sustein by your defending encourageing and protecting the said M^{r} Du Bois in his wicked illegall courses, concludes my answer to your Paper, tho I have other buisness to mind, than your Cavilling Storyes, the charge of it upon me lying very heavy, therefore if you will not mind any yourSelves, do not interrupt me in mine, with your turbulent Scribbles, which I shall take no more notice of but if you have anything to offer do it in Councill, therefore do not longer mind the envious triffles and Neglect ye main.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692*——

Nor can I omitt takeing notice of ye late unparralelld offronts Mr Fraser most audaciously offerd to me & the Goverment by confidently reporting & roaring me to be expelld the Honble Comps Service upon the Dorothys arrivall & confirme it by his turbulent mutinous action in forceably Seizing the Honble Companys Packett from the Purser directed to the President and Councill, which he triumphantly carryed to his Chamber keeping it there some dayes refuseing to deliver it till after perswaded to it by Capt Thwaits these unsufferable actions being great dishonour upon the Goverment, rude disrespects from the Soldiers and others & worse consequence to the Honble Comps Affa'rs in the Countrey we are now negotiating at Coart and Camp, dated in Fort St George this 27th May 1692.

ELIHU YALE.

COPPY OF A LEACE FOR A PEICE OF GROUND GRANTED THE ROMAN CATHOLICKS TO BUILD THEM A CHURCH AT FORT ST DAVID.

Wee the President and Council of Fort St George and City of Madrass for Acct of the Rt Honble English East India Company, doe hereby for ourselves & Successors give and grant unto Revd Padre Paulo de Saa and his Successors a sufficient ps of ground within the towns of Cuddalore and Tevenepatam belonging to the Rt Honble Compa to build and erect a Church and other conveniencyes thereon for the Worspe of God in their own Roman Catholick Religion wth all the Rights and Ceremonyes thereof freely quietly and unmolestedly, provided that in all other temporall matters they duely and faithfully Submitt to and obey ye English Goverment in whose dominions they live as also under their Command and protection therefore in all things to be aiding & assisting to the Worspl Deputy Governour & Councill there for the time being both in peace and Warr, We also hereby Condition and forbid the Padre and his Successors from intermedling with any of our protestant soldiers or Inhabitants as to drawing & diverting them from the Religion and principles of the Church of England, nor to marry Christen or bury any of our Church upon any pretence or consideration whatever upon penalty of expultion or punishment, but in all other matters to be encouraged in their Religion & Worship to encrease ye place wth Inhabitants and trade, who are to be in all things equally favourd wth the English freeman Given under our hands & the Rt Honble Comps Seal at Fort St George in the City of Madrass this 8th of June Ano Dom̃ 1692.

ELIHU YALE.
NATH: HIGGINSON.
WM: FRASER.
THO: GRAY.

WILLIAM PROBY Secry.

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present SATURDAY 18

ELIHU YALE ESQ: PRESIDENT & GOVERNR.
MR: NATH HIGGINSON MR: WM FRASER
MR: THOMAS GRAY *Sick.*

The Warehousekeepr acquainting the Councill, that the Rice lately received from the bay by the Bengall Merchant and goeing to decay, he is therefore orderd to make Sale of it at the best rates herein by retaile.

Mr Wm Proby being removed from his office of Secretary, Mr Francis Bett is orderd Secretary in his place, and to receive all books papers in that charge, taking a list thereof.

By the removall of Mr Nicks and decease of Mr Alford, there remains only Mr Gray of the Choultry Justices, who being likewise Soe indisposed, that he cannot officiate there, tis order'd that Mr Jno Pitt Mr Symon Holcomb, and Mr Wm Proby do officiate there as Justices of the Choultry [meeting there twice] a week for the redressing [. . .]

18th. —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692* ——

[*Two lines lost*] Mr Thomas Wright & Mr George Winkfeild to Signe, whereas Mr Winkfeild covenant obliges him to [serve] as factor only for three years, and Mr Thomas Wright his Superiour for five, which being not according to Compas rules and Customes, and Supposing to be a mistake in the filling them up, wherefore Tis orderd that Mr Wrights be as ye rest, and that he take his degree according to the usuall Customes in Such cases.

There requireing some fitting person to be Sent down to Settle their differences and finish the Rt Honble Compas buisness and Investment at Vizagapatam as likewise to examine the Severall charges and complaints twixt Mr Danl Dubois and Mr Focquet and Mr Owen [Tis agreed] and orderd that Mr Symon Holcomb be sent Cheif and Mr Charles Barwell Second and to carry on the Rt Honble Compas buisness there, as likewise to take a true impartiall examination of th severall complaints and charges, Mr John Symon and [. . .] makes against [. . .] his charge [against . . .] and after concludeing the aforesaid Investment &a and sending aboard ye Dorothy all the Rt Honble Comps goods there for Europe, Tis agreed that Mr Holcomb & Mr Barwell (if they desire it) have liberty to returne hither on Said Ship leaveing Some person in charge of the factory till furthr order.

Mr John Pitt Receiver of the quitt Rents paid into Cash Pags 302: upon Mr Thomas Wavell's Acct of the quit rents recd by him.

By the decease of Mr Henry Alford, the Ensigne's office of the Trainbands is Vacant, which Mr John Pitt is appointed to Supply, and to be Commission'd to it accordingly.

The Rt Honble Compas Merchts were sent for, and discourst about an Investment of 40000 Pags but resolved nothing thereon they desireing some few dayes Considerations before they can give in their Resolves.

Mr Thomas Yale deliverd in his Request to the Councill, that the charge which was [exhibited against him] by the Councill may be [brought] to a fair tryall [and conclusion . . .] wth ye Rt Honble Comps orders concerning him, It is thought fitt to deferr it till then, wch the Secry is order'd to acquaint him wth and to Register his pass according to his desire.

Mr Wm Fraser Warehousekeepr Accts for the month of Aprill was read and past Errrs excepted & his acct Remains deld in.

Orderd that a thousand pags be paid Mr Tho Wright Pro: Paymastr for charges Garrison &ca.

Elihu Yale.
Nat: Higginson.
Will: Fraser.

Mr Thom: Yales Petition To Honble: Sr: and Councill.

The remaining part of this Petition omitted to be [Enterd by Mr Proby & since [. . .].

It is almost two years past that I have laine fallow & unimploy'd [by] reason of a chymericall charge given in by the [then Councill agst me . .] time [. .] since requested [. . .] [desolate either] [. . .] me spend [. . .].

Thursday 30th.

Att a Consultation

Present

Elihu Yale Esqr Presidt & Governr.
Mr Nathll Higginson Mr Will: Fraser.

Mr Mildmay read the Land Customers accot for the month May, wch were past Errors Excepted, and paid into the Honble Companyes Cash Pags 358: 16: 39:.

Commission and Instructions to Mr Simon Holcombe & Mr Charles Barwell, with a Generall Letter to ye Chief &ca and a Letter to the Seir Lasscar of Gingerlee was read and agreed to, and orderd to be engrost.

The Honble Company haveing permitted Bengall & China goods to be sent home on their Shipps according to their Conditions tis orderd that Publick notice be given thereof by the Warehousekeeper by putting up a noat at ye Sea Gate.

FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692

Mr Nicks & Mr Gyfford was sent for and acquainted with the Companyes orders, Concerning ye Conimere & Porto Novo Cloth, and orderd that ye Clause of ye Compas Genll be Transcribed and deliverd them, & hat they give their answer thereto. [30TH]

Mr William ffraser Warehousekeeper his Acct for the month of May was read & past Errors Excepted.

Mr James Wheeler is orderd to be Land Customer & allsoe to Continue his Assistance in the Generall Books.

Mr Zouch Trougton is orderd to be Rentall Generall to receive the Quit Rents Beteek Rents Lycences & Ground Rents &ca.

Mr Thomas Wright Provissionall Paymaster, his acct of Expences for the month of May was Read and Past in Councell Errors Excepted.

The Pre[s]ident drue up and read Severall Orders to be observed by the Garrison Soldiers, and Gunners Crew to gett all things in redyness, that we may not be Surpriz'd by ye French.

Mr William Proby delivering in a Paper of Severall Expences, and things bought by him for ye Honble Companyes use, tis orderd that the Paymaster brings them into his accots and Pays Mr Proby for the Same.

Mr John Pitt Trustee to Mr Henry Alford Late Receiver at the Custome house paid into ye: Honble: Compas Cash Pagds: 5789: 35fa: for Customes recd by Said Mr Alford, for part of ye four last months.

Tis orderd that Six Pipes of Madeira Wyne be bought for acct of ye Honble Company Vizt two for Bengall, one for ffort St David, halfe a one for Vizagapatam, and two & a halfe for this Garrison.

Elihu Yale.
Nat: Higginson.

July 26th: It was the Presidents own [singlē] act, [ordering] Mr Nicks &c to have [a Copie of the] Paragraph of the H: Compas Genll which dismissed him their Service ... ... } Will: Fraser.

Commission & Instructions to Messrs Simon Holcombe, & Charles Barwell for their Examining and Reporting the wrongs and differences, among the Rt Honble Compas Servts at Their ffactory at Vizagapatam.

The good opinion we have of your Abillityes & integretyes Occasions our Employing you in this affaire, that ye Rt Honoble Company may be righted therein, and their Affaires and buisness goe on Currently and unanimously, free from Injury & neglect, and all impeeding discords, that may anywayes disturb ye benefitt, Securety or Honour of that Settlement wch ye Honble Company requires us to indulge, encourage, and improve what we can, and to encrease ye Sorts of goods and Investments there, as much as possibly, Those parts being now (and Likely to Continue soe) the only peaceable free plentifull place for Trade, and goods of great Variety propper for Europe, for wch: reason, and ye Continued trouble & Scarcety of these parts, We sent down a larger Stock then usually, but we are enformd by the many great Complaints from Messrs ffocquet, Owen & others, against Mr Daniell DuBois, that ye Companyes Stock has not been employ'd & improved according to our Orders, but imprudently, and unjustly disposeing lending, and expending it, and misemploying Their goods for his particular accot and advantage, some instances thereof appears to us, we haveing it under his hand, and in ye Generall Books he sent up hither, an abstract whereof we deliver you as allso, all other papers and charges against him, for your perusall and examination, as likewise Mr duBois his Severll Complaints, against Mr ffocquet & Mr Owen, all wch we order you (impartilly without favour, affection or prejudice) Strictly to enquire into, and justly to examine and to send a true Report thereof to us, without ye least addition or demination in anything whatever, more especially in matters of fact and fraud. That we may rightly

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[30TH] Judge thereof, and redress ye wrongs done ye Honble Company, by a due restoration and dismission, and on ye Contrary to encourage and advance those who shall be found faithfull & diligent, and to punish Malicious false accusers, according to their demerritt wch will Chiefly depend upon ye Justness of your enquierys & Report, therefore you must be very exact, deliberate and equitable therein, and moderate patient & duely inquisitive with the Wittnesses that Shall be produc't in evidence, and rightly to consider and weigh ye probabillity of ye proofs, they alledg, and neither to encourage, or discourage any Person unduely therein, from preposession, or enclination to either side, but lett them have a fair hearing & suming up their evidence, avoyding all heat and passion in your proceedings & Conclusions.

After you have taken all examinations and proofs in these matters, remitt them to us overland, as allsoe by the Dorathy, on whom both of you haveing earnestly requested to returne, upon acco^t^ of your familys & ℘ticular Occasions, wch tho we doe not deny you, yett we hope & desire your Stay at least till ye Honble Comp^as^ buisness be well settled and Compleated, Since the Dorathy requires, too hasty a dispatch (we doubt) before you can finish all; tho we hope the healthfullness, and plentyfull Cheapness of ye Place will encourage your Settling there, wch we beleive may be to ye Honble Comp^as^ advantage, and your own Satisfaction. but if your buisness will not permitt your stay, then you must leave ye fittest person there in charge of ye ffactory not as Chief (to avoyd ye Charge) but rather as Steward to look after ye Stores and household stuff, supposeing there will be little other remaines after your departure.

We Likewise order your Strict enquiery into all extravagant expences, and disbursments, embezlements of the Honble Companyes money or goods, by lending, presenting, trusting, or employing it Contrary to their order, allsoe into ye Exchanges, and payments of their Pago^ds^ if according to the then price Currant, And that you may ye better be enabled to discharge this your Commission, we hereby require and Command all Persons, as well English as Natives in ye Honble Companyes Service, or any wayes belonging to it, or their protection or Government to aid & assist, respect and obey you therein, as they shall answer the Contrary at their Perrills,. The Chief by his place according to their Majesties Charter, being impowerd to administer Legall Oaths, towards ye doeing of Justice & decission of differences.

After you have fully and rightly examined the Severall proofs, and Testimonyes, relateing to ye Severall Charges and Complaints in this matter, we doe hereby for ye Honble Company and our fuller Sattisfaction therein, and our further enquiery's and examination of them, before we conclude ye Case, [order ?] that Mr Daniell du Bois, Mr John ffocquett & Mr Sam^ll^: Owen doe all of them embarque upon Shipp Dorathy for passage hither, when after their arrivall and dispatch of this buisness, we Shall returne, or otherwyse employ them according to their Integrety, and Seniority, to their full contentment & satisfaction and just encouragement of faithfull Servants. Dated at ffort S^t^: George in ye Citty of Madrass this 30th Day of June 1692.

ELIHU YALE.
NATH^LL^: HIGGINSON.
WILLIAM FRASER.

TO MR SIMON HOLCOMBE CHIEF
&C^A^ COUNCELL FOR Y^E^ R^T^ HON^BLE^ COMP^AS^
AFFAIRES IN VIZAGAPATAM.

Wee appoynt Mr Charles Barwell only of your Councell, till ye examination of all complaints there be duely and throughly taken, and ye Honble: Companyes buisness peacably well Settled, for wch we have given you our Commission and Instructions therein requireing all Persons in ye Honble : Companyes Service or any wayes relateing to it, or their Protection, as well English as natives, to assist, respect and Obey you therein.

Upon your arrivall at Vizagapatam we hereby Order Messrs DuBois, ffocquet & Owen &c^a^ to deliver up ye Honble Companyes ffactory into your Possession, with

all their Cash, Goods Moveables, Books, Papers, and all things belonging to them, and each person to give and render you a perticular accot of their Charge in the Honble Companyes buisness, after which you are to enter a just Inventory and list of all you receive, in your Consultation Book, and then to proceed to Lade the Bale goods &ca upon Shipp Dorathy, and gett in ye Remaynder of ye Honble Compas. Investment, and all if possible to be sent upon her wth what more Course goods Neckcloths or Striped Betteelaes, & a few bales plain, of Severall Sorts for a Tryall, you can procure upon Creditt, if you finde not Sufficient money there to buy them, and upon your first advice, we shall send effects to pay for them or you may draw Bills upon us for it, however least there Should be a want of Cash, we now deliver you to the amount 5000 Pagos wch you must Creditt Accot Current for.

Wee also Order you to send up all the Europe cloth, or other goods that are not vendible there, upon Shipp Dorathy since they will come to a good market here, Our Godowns being voya of all sorts.

Compareing the list of goods recd with that taken away, we finde Several Goods wanting as ℔ note thereof, which you must take all care to recover from ye Seir Lascar or his people, the Grand Vizier Assid Cawn haveing given us his Pirwanna that all things taken forcible from the Honble Company or any other belonging to them should be justly restored, wch Pirwana we now send with you to the Seir Lascar for his due Observance, wch if he refuses give us a perticular acct thereof that we may Complaine it to ye Vizier, and gett him either to doe us right or to be turn'd out. Mr Du Bois writes the Seir Lascar presses him for Sallabadd money wch we understand not ye reason of or that there was ever any such agreement or Custome, therefore not to be allowed or taken notice of, possibly something might have been given him by those that Rent ye Town of Vizagapatam, but that concernes not the Compa but when they rent it, wch can be but a small matter, paying the Due Rent, wch if you can agree with the Seir Lascar to lett it ye Honble Company for ye Terme of five years, at soe reasonable a Rent that they may not be loosers by it, we would have you take a Lease of it from him, Since we beleive twill be of great conveniency & benifitt to ye Honoble Companyes Trade there, & peace & quiett of their Servants from ye affronts and exactions of the Moor's Governmt.

We doubt ye Seir Lascar will expect a small present from the Chief, upon his first arrivall, wch cannot be well avoyded being accustomary in all places, however be as frugall therein as possible and all other expences, reduceing ye extravigant number of Peons and Servants there.

Wee keep ye Brigentine here for advices when ye ffrench Fleet arrives on this coast, that ye Dorathy may escape them either by putting off to Sea for her passage hither, or goeing directly for Bengall into Hugly River, wch: we shall accordingly advise you about; Designing ye Brigentine to goe into Vizagapatam River to repair their as soon as possibly to be return'd hither with Bale goods and Provissions a good quantity whereof we would have you send hither, upon ye Dorathy wch will something compensate her great charge of Tonnage, Provissions being very Scarce and dear here, and like to be worse by the numerous Armyes near us.

Pollichodry a Governr in those parts haveing taken, or stopt about 2000 Rupees of Capt Burton's &ca, belonging to Shipp Corporation, at Gangam, wch upon Complaint to ye Seir Lascar was orderd to repay the same as ye Compas to Mr DuBois, wch we desire you to enquire into, and procecute, if not yet effected.

For a Comfortable encouragemt in your buisness, we have sent you a Supply of a bhd of good Madera Wyne, wch pray be good husbands of & Creditt us for its amot Pags [*blank*] wch is all from

Srs

Your faithfull affect ffriends

ELIHU YALE.

NATHLL: HIGGINSON.

WILLIAM FRASER.

— — FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692 ———

TO THE HON^{BLE} MUSTAPHA COOLEE CAWN
SEIR LASCAR OF THE GINGERLEE COUNTREY.

May these finde your Hon^r in health happiness and Victorious over your Enemyes, wch I shall gladly hear of by all oppertunityes, these being Cheifly to acquaint your Hon^r that I now sent down Mr Simon Holcombe Chief of the R^t Honble Comp^{as} ffactory at Vizagapatam to Settle and carry on their buisness and regulate the disorders, and differences amongst our people there and to recover what moneys and goods are Still detaind of what was Sadly Seizd upon in our ffactory there, and that due Sattisfaction, and reparation be made for what wrongs and Injuryes were then done, for wch the Grand Vizier Assid Cawn, has sent his Pirwana, wch I earnestly desire you will please to see justly performd giveing our Chief &c^a all friendly assistance therein, that we may be encouraged to encrease our Settlements and in those parts to ye Hon^r of ye King, benefitt of ye Divan and good of the Country, and poor Labouring people therein, and your Hon^{rs} great Reputation, there has been allsoe severall Large Sums of money unjustly forct from our people by Severalls there, and Chiefly ye Wackanaveece whom I desire your Hon^r will cause to be repayd, for other matters I referr you to our Chief, who will informe you of all things you desire, wishing your Hon^r a lasting health and happiness, and a Continued friendship to me our People and Affaires.

ELIHU YALE.

Rules & Orders for the Millitary Goverm^t Discipline & Posting ye Garrison Officers & Soldiers vizt:—

The first and Second Companyes to mount the Guards on Munday, The Capt with two third parts of ye first Comp^a to take Charge of the Fort, the other third part with an Ensigne to Post at St Thoma gate to Guard that Poynt & Charles Tower The Seagate and River Battery to be Supplyed from the Fort upon occasion.

The Second Company to be divided one halfe with ye Capt to ye Chowtrey Gate, Middle Gate Yorke and Gloster Poynts, The other halfe with an Ensign to march with Drum to the Citty or out Guards, their Corps du Guard to be at ye Bridg gate and thence to be quarterd to Pollicatt and Cittee Gates under Charge of Serjeant and Corporall.

The next day this Second Company is to be free of Duty the ffirst Company removeing to ye Chowdry Guard, divideing as before, and the third Company to mount the ffort Guard under the same divission as the first was, and the Capt then in that Charge each night to attend ye Govern^r for Orders.

The third day the first Company is free, and ye third Comp^a Supplies their Post at the Chowdry, and the Second to mount the ffort Guard, and soe round Successively, wherein each Capt is to Lead, March and mount the guards with his own Company and neither they nor any of the officers to neglect it, or leave their guard without due Lycence, upon penalty of forfeiting a days pay to the Hospitall, nor any Centinell to goe beyond the out guards without Licence from their Chief Officer, upon pain of imprisonment or other Punishment.

Tis allsoe orderd that each Commander, doe exersize, and Train his Company, once in three weeks, Successively according to their Stations, and that then they doe with ye Master of ye Armes, Strictly examine their Arm's, correcting those that misuse them, and repairing what are out of order, & changing those which are badd, and that once a month all ye Commission Officers and Chief Gunners doe inspect the Magazine, Armory and Stores, reporting their Condition to ye Govern^r &c^a getting Sufficient Ammunition in readyness, with at least 300 spare Collers of Bandelyers or Cartuches fild, and as many hand Granadoes prepar'd, that we many not be Surpriz'd upon any assault.

ELIHU YALE GOV^r

FRANCIS BETT SEC^{ry}

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1692*———

RULES FOR THE CHIEF GUNNERS & THEIR CREW.

That the Cheif Gunners, Their Mates, and Assistants doe each morning appear and muster, before the Gunroom in the ffort, and that from thence the halfe of them be divided and Posted in the ffort and Severall Poynts Bulwarks and Bastians in the Garrison and outwarks, where at ye Sever^{ll} places they are to keep Strict watch by Centinell with naked Swords in their hands, to see that noe one meddles wth or injures the Gunns, Stores &c^{a} but that all things are kept in due order and redyness, and that sufficient Rounds of Cartrages be provided for the great Gunns on each bulwarke with Stores of Sizeable Iron and Stone Shott, Partrig Shott and Small Stones, with Cannon basketts for defence of the Small Arm's most of the Battlements being soe broke down that twill be otherwyse unsafe Standing by ye great gunns or for the Soldiers to excercize their small Shott.

That a dayly acco^{t} be kept of ye expence of all Powder, Shott and Stores &c^{a} and that ye cartrages be often examind for their Condition and weight.

That the Gunners Guard doe give ye word to all Rounds of Commission Officers, and that they redyly Submitt to their examination and Orders.

That ye Chief Gunners and their mates doe wear hangers or Baggonetts, and the assistants to carry theirs in their hands, and for distinction to wear different Caps from the Soldiers.

That all the Gunners Crew doe repair to ye ffort and Battery's as oft as the fflagg flyes (except on festivalls, to know the business, Dated at ffort St George in the Citty of Madrass this 30th day June 1692.

FRANCIS BETT Sec^{ry}. ELIHU YALE Govr.

Rec^{d} a Generall from Fort S^{t}. David dated ye 29th June. 3 TUESDAY

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present 5TH

ELIHU YALE ESQ^{R} PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR
MR NATH^{LL}: HIGGINSON M^{R} W^{M}: FFRASER.

Haveing rec^{d} answere from Fort S^{t}. David about ye Sorts of Indigoe procureable there they informe us that they can provide noe more of that fine Sort formerly sent us then 2 Cand^{ys} but now send us a muster of a meane Sort of wch they Say they can procure a quantety, at about 12 pago^{ds} ℘ Candy which in Consideration of ye Honble Company adviseing it bears a good price in England, tis agreed that they be orderd to provide 20 Candy for a Tryall, to be sent home on ye Dorathy.

Mr Simon Holcombe being appointed for Vizagapatam was orderd to make up his Sea Customes acco^{ts}, who accordingly paid into Cash Pago^{ds} 1048 : 35½ fan^{ms} Said to be all he received [on] that acco^{t}.

Mr Higginson deliverd in a paper he rec^{d} from two Braminyes, Eramrazo & Mullapa lately belonging to Cuddalore being Complaints against the Dubash, Expence Bramany, and Mint Bramany for Severall wrongs and frauds, they were guilty of in their Severall Charges in the R^{t} Honble Companyes buisness, to ye amount of 3000 Pago^{ds} they both being possitive in their Charge against them & Say they will prove each ℘ticular when requir'd, Tis therefore order'd ye above said three Persons, be accordingly sent for from Fort St David, to be examined here by us, and that the said Charge be entred here.

There being Severall Complaints by the Pegue Rubie Merchants, against the Rubie Broaker, he exacting 2 ℘cent more than what orderd and allowed him, which playnly appearing by proof, and his own acknowledgem^{t} tis orderd that he pay 100 Pago^{ds} fine to ye R^{t} Honble Comp^{a} and restore to the Severall merchants what he hath wrongfully taken from them, and then be expeld from that place & office.

Mr Nicks gave in his Answere to the Paragraph in the Honble Companyes Generall Letter concerning him, deliverd the last Consultation day, wch is orderd

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to be entred and he further examin'd thereon about the Conimeere goods &ca as ye Honble Compa have orderd.

Orderd that ye former order be now republished for the repairing the Houses and Walls of the Garrison next ye River side, for Security thereof, within one months time, and yt in default thereof, either for want of abillity, or Lawfull owners, or attorneys to doe the same, that said houses and grounds, be exposed to publick Sale and the proceed paid the Proprietors, or that it be depossited in the Honble Compas Cash till the Lawfull Owners shall appear by themselves or attorneys.

ELIHU YALE.

I approve not the accepting & entring Mr Nicks his Vindication. It being more proper, that a charge bee drawn up by some person deprived, & that Mr Nicks &ca be examined thereupon, rather then upon their own Vindication. } NAT: HIGGINSON.

July 26th: I have addrest my Exceptions in a Paper by itself & to that & foul & bold Paper of Mr Nick swhich he calls his [Vindication], & did then express my disent to its being Entered. } WILL: FRASER.

TO THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDT FOR THE AFFAIRES OF THE RT HONBLE ENGLISH EAST INDIA COMPA ON THE COAST OF CHORMANDELL BAY OF BENGALL &CA & GOVERNR OF FORT ST GEORGE &CA COUNCELL.

The adress & Complaint of Eramrazo Mullapa against Severall Wrongs done to ye Rt Honble Compas affaires in Fort St David, Cuddaloore &ca by ye Chief Dubash Yencatteputte, Griapa Braminy, ye Mint Braminy &ca without ye Knowledge of ye Worspll Wm Hatsell Deputy Governour.

Ye charge against fort St. David Dubash Mint & Expence Braminies.

In the sale of Broad cloth, the Chief Dubash bought in the Merchants name, at 23 pagods ℘ peece, when the Markett price was pagods 27, halfe whereof was on his owne accot and halfe on accot of the Merchants.

In the Sale of Corrall he contracted for 5 ℘ cent less, then the Puddicherry Merchants offerd, wch was Sold to ye Pachgudda Merchts on a private agreement, between him and them, part whereof was afterwards sold to ye Puddicherry Merchts on some proffitt, and part being Sent to Porto Novo by Sea, wch Gopall Punditt intercepted, but upon their Complaint to ye Dubash, he gott it free upon a good reward to himselfe & Gopall Punditt.

The Dubash & Braminy defrauded the Rt Honble Company in their Stores, Building Powdermakeing and Town Rents.

The Mint Braminy and Dubash wronged ye Rt Honble Compa in Coyning the fanams, whereas ye matt was $10\frac{1}{4}$ wch was to be brought to $4\frac{1}{4}$ matt, the Fanams were made at an under matt.

The Dubash & Braminy in their private Trade wronged the Rt Honble Company, in their Sea and Land Customes, some whereof they paid and rest they Cheated them in.

The Dubash & Braminy begged ground of ye Worspll Deputy Governr, and built upon it, wch ground and houses they afterwards Sold, for their own accot and thereby Cheated ye Rt Honble Company of their ground, wch might have been sold to others, and ye money brought into their Cash.

Severall Merchants and other Natives repairing to ye Rt Honble Companyes Settlements, for Protection, they forced them to give them money to procure said Protection, otherwise they had forc't to goe without it.

They first made Freindship with the Mogulls People at Conimeere, for their owne private Interest, and helped them to Powder and Shott, and by their means, they were invited to see Fort St David, and then they took that oppertunity to harras the Marattas Country, wch Caused a great deale of trouble and Disturbance.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692*—— [5TH]

If your Honr &ca Councell would please to take these Matters into Examination, there will appear, a great deale more to offer, wch can be proved by Sufficient Wittness, wch will make out that the aforesaid Persons have wronged the Rt Honble Company above 3000 Pagodaes, if they were Secreetly sent for and kept, & examined apart here, or that your Honr &ca Councell would please to send one to Examine this Affaire in Fort St David, And whereas the Worspll William Hatsell hath contracted with the Merchants for an Investment of 10000 Pagodaes, your Honr &ca Councells most humble Servants doe presume to offer that they can procure responsible Merchants to make the said Investment on two ℔ cent abatement upon ye whole, all wch they humbly present to your Honr &ca Councell.

To THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE
PRESIDENT &CA COUNCILL.

I have Seriously perus'd and Considerd the Rt Honble Companyes pleasure concerning me in the Paragraph of the Generall Letter of the 18th ffebruary 1690, by Shipp Dorathy lately deliverd me, wherein besides my dismission, their Honrs are pleased greatly to reflect upon my reputation and late Service at Conimeere, and alsoe severely Charge me with expenciveness, to all wch I humbly request your Honr and Councell, will favourably accept and impartially peruse and Consider my following Vindication, and then (notwithstanding the Malicious endeavours to blast and ruine me and myne) I doubt not twill evidently appear that these Complaints Cheifly proceed from them, and that tis more my Misfortune then fault; In 1688 your Honr and Councell were pleased to order and appoint me Chief of Conimeere ffactory, for the managemt of ye Honble Companyes affaires there, and at Porto Novo, and with the Councell to make an Investment in Course goods, wch with great trouble and difficulty, I prevail'd with those Merchants to undertake, they haveing been accustomed to provide quantitys of fine goods in proportion to the others, wch was their Chiefest profitt, and therefore the more backward and unwilling to engage in a Contract for all Course goods, however I not only prest and obliged them to it, but alsoe to better termes and prices then formerly and upon the old Musters, disposeing likewise of a Considerable quantity of Europe goods in part of their Investment, and at such rates, that the Merchants lost very much by them, thus I well perform'd the Charge and duty of my Chiefship, all things promising fairly to a happy Conclusion of our Contract, But some months after hapned to break out that unfortunate destructive Warr twixt the Moors, and Morattas, and beseiging Chengy, robbing and destroying the Country round us, from whence the Merchants were to procure their Investment, wch advanct the prices of Cloth near 20 ℔ cent dearer then when we made our Contract, wch soe discouraged the Merchants, as made them not only negligent, but allmost desist from the Investment, and occasion'd my often pressing and importuning them to their buisness, wch effecting little with them, I was forc't to threats, and after to confining part of them in the ffactory, whilst the rest prosecuted their buisness, but the Scarcity of goods, and troubles in the Country was soe great, that they could not comply with their time nor sortmts the goods they brought in being very thin & ordinary, in soe much, that we turnd out thousands of peeces, and tho: it is not a Chiefs buisness to sort Cloth, but the Warehousekeeper, however when my other Affaires would permitt I assisted therein, wch any time and occasions allowed not of much, but what I have Sorted can with a cleare Conscience, and am ready to affirme it upon Oath, that I did it faithfully to ye best of my Skill and Judgement, and that neither, directly nor indirectly did, I ever take or receive any bribe from the Merchants to doe otherwise or [any person] whatever for me, of wch I earnestly request the Merchants may be strictly examined, most of them being now in towne under your Command and power, Tho: for the Condition of the Cloth I must confess, I did not beleive there was soe bad amongst it as I saw here, wch I am confident never past my View or Sortment, and possibly happend from hast, or oversight of those that did it, or the fault of him that had the

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692*—

[5TH] charge of the embaleing, wch if not carefully inspected, the Merchants or their Creatures will shuffle in some of their turn'd out Cloth, besides the ill cureing and beating it, render'd it much worse, then otherwise it would have been, both the washers and Dyers being much disturbed by the Soldiers, you may alsoe please to observe that there is great difference twixt the Musters and prices of this place and Conimeer, and we Sorted to a lower Number then yours at a proportionable price, that we might gett the more Cloth for the Hon[ble] Company, and lessen the Merchants debt to them, soe that our Cloth being compared wth your better Musters, made it appeare worse then really it was, we had likewise kept all the turnd out Cloth, in our Godowne, w[ch] we did a long time, 'till the Merchants were soe importunate for it that they declar'd except that was releast to them to make money off, they had none to provide better with, w[ch] necessitated our delivering it them, upon that consideration, and altho: the Cloth we received was not permitted to be sent for England, yet it had the good fortune to be Sold here to Such great proffit that I beleive there never was, nor will be y[e] like instance upon the Hon[ble] Comp[as] Investments anywhere in India, & the proceed sent home in Bengall goods upon Shipp Orange undoubtedly to the Hon[ble] Comp[as] great Satisfaction and advantage, tho: had the money remaind here it might have been now Invested in better and cheaper Long Cloth time enough to have gone home upon any of the Hon[ble] Comp[as] expected Shipping wherby tis apparent that it had been for the Hon[ble] Companyes Interest to have taken more of the Ordinary Cloth, from the merchants rather then leave soe much of the [. . .] money in their hands at an unproffitable [hazard,] when after 6 months confinem[t] of some of those Merchants here to force y[e] rest to performe their Contract, all they could be brought to was only to returne part of the Companyes money, w[ch] was alsoe obtain'd with great trouble and difficulty, and they are still D[rs] upon that acco[t] and what better has been done with the Porto Novo Merch[ts] from M[r] Hatsell &c[a] near two years endeavours, but only (& that very lately) to receive from them their principall debt, to the R[t] Hon[ble] Comp[a] without any advance or soe much as common Interest, and Glad they could conclude with them soe, they being poore and disperst by the Country troubles from all w[ch] your Hon[r] &c[a] may plainly understand y[e] difficulties I encountred in this troublesome buisness, and the proffitt the Hon[ble] Comp[a] made upon the Cloth we provided, and might had y[e] Same on the blue Cloth too, had you been pleased to have disposed of it, (tho I beleive none such can be now procured at y[e] price it cost) whereas nothing has been gained by the remaining money in the Merchants hands, but satisfied to recover the bare principall w[ch] I hope you will please rightly to consider off, & represent to my reputation rather then otherwise, and that you will alsoe remember that the Browne Cloth sent home upon y[e] Defence as a Testimony against me, was sorted at, and sent from Conimeer, long after I left the place, and by your Licence return'd with my family hither, the charge of the ffactory being by your orders committed to M[r] Daniell Gyfford &c[a] who Sorted and Sent thence many Bales after my departure, as appears by their ticketts in the Bales.

And as to what I am charg'd with about extravagancy and expenciveness at Conimeer I am alsoe much wronged therein, the Hon[ble] Comp[as] charge dureing my time being much less then in my predecessor M[r] Willcoxes, and as little as possibly it could be reduc't to, for w[ch] the Severall Books of Acco[ts] are my testimonys, to w[ch] I referr; Humbly requesting your Hon[r] & Councell will please to doe me right, in ordering the payment of y[e] Hon[ble] Companyes allowance to their Servants in my Station, which M[r] ffraser from some unjust pique against me, refused to pay me, dureing his being paymaster, soe that I have not rec[d] any thing thereof since my removall from Conimeer, tho I have not only been ready, but desireous of doing the Hon[ble] Comp[a] any service your Hon[r] &c[a] Should please to appoint me, and dureing my being in the Choudry, gave my dilligent attendance, doeing all the Service [I could] therein, and was not only a

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continued Servant of the R^t^ Honble Comp^as^ but was alsoe by their Generall Letter by Shipp Herbert, confirmed Chief of Conimeer, and never dismist their Service till ye arrivall of Shipp Dorathy, to wch time my Sallary and allowances are unquestionably due, soe intreat you will please to order its payment, being now out of employment, and solely at my owne charge, therefore am the more in want of it. Thus according to your order I have given your Hon^r^ & Councell a faithfull acco^t^ of our troublesome Investment, with its consequents for wch I have here been soe Complain'd off, and exclaimed against and openly and publickly affronted and threatned by M^r^ ffraser, and now sensur'd, condemn'd and expell'd, a sad reward for my 24 yeares Labourious faithfull Service, with how much reason the Almighty best Knowes, and humbly leave to the Honble Comp^a^ & your more candid judgements to judge of being

Honble &c^a^

July ye 5th. Your Hon^rs^ most faithfull Servan^t^

JOHN NICKS.

Received a Generall letter from Fort St. David dated ye 2^d^ Instant. 6TH.

ATT A CONSULTATION — THURSDAY 7TH.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R^ PRESD^T^ & GOVERNOR

M^R^. NATH^LL^ HIGGINSON. M^R^. W^M^ FRASER.

Commission & Instructions wth letters &c^a^ were Signed & deliverd to Mr Simon Holcombe & Mr Charles Barwell, for their Negotiateing at Vizagapatam, who alsoe took ye following Oath for a just examination of ye differences between Mr Daniell DuBois, Mr John Focquett & Mr Sam^ll^ Owen.

Mr Higginson & Mr Elliott Execut^rs^ to the Last Will and Testament of Mr John Cheney deceas'd, deliverd in a paper to the Councell desireing Mr Cheneys Acco^ts^ might be adjusted wth the R^t^ Honble Comp^a^, that they might dispose of his Estate according to his Order, wch the President declares cannot be rightly done, till we receive further advice from the R^t^ Honble Company, about ye Dustore and Sale of goods &c^a^ made by him, and therefore doe Attatch 1000 pagodaes of Mr Cheneys in their hands, to answerwhat Demands shall be proved against him, and the remainder to be at their dispose, Said Paper to be entred next after this Consultation.

Peruseing the 74th Paragraph in ye Honble Companyes Generall l̃re, wherein they are pleased to order that 5000 pag^os^ of Mr Davises, be attatch^t^ in the hands of his Attorneys, and paid into their Cash, to answere the Errors & wrongs made by him when Chief of Cuddaloore, and that those Books of Acco^ts^ be sent them home, alsoe a Charge against him for their further information, in order to wch the Worsp^ll^ W^m^ ffraser Esqr Mayor is accordingly desired to attatch, receive and pay Said Sume of money into the Honble Companyes Cash, and that Mr Davis have Creditt for the Same in our Generall Books.

ELIHU YALE.

I cannot consent to the attaching of Pa 1000 of the Estate of Mr Cheney deceased [unlesse] the President shew cause for it more particularly. } NATH : HIGGINSON.

July 26th.—I knew nothing in prejudice done the H: Comp^a^ by Mr John Cheney during his Life while in their Hon^rs^ service here but was of a [clear] & unspotted reputation & I know nothing since to the Contrary. } WILL: FRASER.

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692*—

THE OATH TAKEN BY MR SIMON HOLCOMBE & MR CHARLES BARWELL.

You Sollemly make oath and sware that you will to ye utmost of your power, enformation and evidence truely justly and impartially without favour, affection or prejudice enquire into and examine the Severall charges complaints & differences between Mr Daniell duBois & Mr John Focquett & Mr Sam^{ll} Owen &c^{a} of Vizagapatam, against each other in behalfe of ye R^{t} Honble English East India Company, and true report to make thereof to ye President & Councell, according to ye Severall Testimonies offerd and taken in that case, without ye least addition or diminition ,in favour or prejudice to either party soe help you God & Contents of this holy Book.

TO THE HON^{BLE} ELIHU YALE ESQ^{R},
PRESIDENT & GOVERN^{R} &C^{A} COUNCELL.

Whereas your Hon^{r} on behalfe of the R^{t} Honble Company, has laid a Verball Attachment on the Estate of John Cheney Deceased in the hands of us ye Subscribers and Executors of his Last Will to a Considerable amount, Wee desire your Hon^{r} &c^{a} will please to Cause the Said Demand to be Examin'd, and adjusted soe soon as it can be conveniently done, because we cannot safely Dispose of the Estate of the Deceased according to the Appointment of the Will, till ye Said Demand be sattisfyed.

Your Hon^{rs} &c^{a} most hum^{ble} Servants
RICHARD ELLIOTT.
NATH^{LL} HIGGINSON.

8TH. Rec^{d} a Generall Lr̃e from Fort St David Dated ye 2^{d} Instant.

Dispatch^{t} a Generall to Fort St David.

Gave a Pass to Sloop Joana belonging to Mr John Bunt.

9. Shipp Speedwell William Stock Master sail'd for Vizagapatam.

Gave a Pass to Shipp Sta Marea belonging to Cojee Fraut an Armenian.

10. Mr Bartholmew Rodrigues, Departed this life about three of the Clock in the morning, and was Interred about five in the afternoone in h[i]s garden near his house, accompany'd by ye Govr &c^{a} at his funerall & most of ye Gentry of Madrass, & a Company of Soldiers, who fired three Valleys.

A Dutch Sloope arrived from Teagnapatam & brought a Dutch Doctor, who was formerly Sent for on acco^{t} of Mr Rodrigues, but became too late, so soon as the Doctor was put ashore, ye Sloop Sail'd for Pollicatt.

11. Deliverd Capt Thwait's his Despatch for Vizagapatam the flagg being put out as accustomary on Shipps despatch there came a gust of wind with a small Shower of Raine about 4 in the afternoon, that before they could Lower ye fflagg, the top of ye Standard broak under ye Crosstrees and down fell ye fflagg with the fflagg Staff & broak in peeces.

12TH. Sloop Joana belonging to Mr John Bunt sail'd for Bengall.

13TH. Shipp Dorathy Capt James Thwaites Commander Saild for Vizagapatam.

Shipp Bengall Merch^{t} Capt John Hampton Commander, had his Dispatch deliverd him this morning, and sail'd for Bengall in the afternoone.

15TH. Rec^{d} Generall l̃re from Fort St David dated ye 12th Instant.

18TH. Shipp Loyall Capt Capt William Browse Commander Sail'd for Bengall.

Rec^{d} a Generall lr̃e from Fort St David Dated ye 14th Instant accompanied with their Chief Dubash Vincattee &c^{a} Braminyes to answere to the charge laid against them, for defrauding ye R^{t} Honble Company.

Mr Thomas Gray returned from the Mount in a very weake Condition.

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692*—

ATT A CONSULTATION

WEDNESDAY 20TH.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDT & GOVERR
MR NATHNLL HIGGINSON MR WM FRASER.

Mr William Fraser Warehousekeeper read his accots for the month of June, wch was past Errors excepted.

Vinkety Puttee the Chief Dubash of Fort St David according to order, was sent up hither, and confined upon his arrivall in order to his examination and the Complainants sent for, and orderd to hasten their proofs and evidences against him, and that we may proceed in all just partiallity, 'tis orderd that the Gen[tue] Copies of the severall charges against him be Deliverd him, to give in his answere thereto.

Mr Higginson deliverd in his report of ye Assayes [. . .] five of Fort St Davids fanams wch Mr Stone Assay Master haveing exactly tryed came out but $3\frac{1}{2}$ matt fine, wch should be $4\frac{1}{4}$ matt, according to ye Standard there, and since the receipt of said five from Marrapa the Deputy Goverr &ca have sent us Musters of other fanms lately coynd there, wch are so notoriously bad that tis beleived, will not reach one matt fine, wch being crime of soe high a nature, descreditt, and prejudice to our Mint there, its orderd that it be Strictly enquired into and the offenders severely punish't, but that ye Honble Companyes benifitt by the Mint may not suffer thereby, or be neglected its orderd that one of our Mint Braminees to be joyn'd wth another, two Sheroffs wth a Sufficient number Goldsmiths Washers &ca be sent thither, to manage the mint buisness, and that new Stomps for fanms be sent them different from the former, to prevent Counterfeits, but that they of ffort St David be first advised thereof to have their opinions about it.

Mr Daniell Gyfford gave in his answere to ye paragraph in the Honble Compas Generall letter dated ye 18th ffebruary 169$\frac{0}{1}$ recd by the Dorathy, wch the President orderd to be entred and he to be further examind thereon Concerning the Conimeere Cloth &ca.

Orderd that ye Brigentine now in the road be Dispatcht for Fort St David with what necessaryes and Stores they write for, as alsoe for conveniency of carrying up the Mint People, and bring down the Wittnesses.

Ranga Chittee &ca Corrall Merchants paid ye President into ye Honble Compas Cash Pagods 13500: on accot of 8 chests of Corrall, and 8 boxes of Branch Corrall deliverd them upon their former Contract at 7 months.

ELIHU YALE.
NATH HIGGINSON.
[WILL :] FRASER.

If the person with whom our Mint Bramine is to be joined, bee intended to be Marrapa, I dissent
July 26th— And I the same ...

TO THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE PRESIDT & GOVERNR
OF FORT ST GEORGE & THE WORSPLL
NATHLL HIGGINSON DEPUTY &CA COUNCELL.

May it please your Honr and Worsp &ca: In obedience to your Commands, I shall proceed to give Respectfully my answere to the Rt Honble Companyes Paragraph in their Generll ℘ ye Dorathy, dated the 18th ffebruary 169$\frac{0}{1}$ concerning the Sortment of their Cloth in their ffactory of Conimere.

I for my part Sorted to ye best of my Judgement considering the troublesome time we then were in, when in reallity there was not those variety of good Cloth to be had to enable the Merchants to bring in according to Musters, but to ye best of my understanding, I did beleive it was most advantagious for ye Rt Honble Companyes Interests, to Secure ye Merchants Debt to their Honrs for ye Money &ca goods advanced to them to take ye best of the Cloth, they would bring in wch in

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692*——

[20TH] good faith I did, haveing alway turned out one halfe, & some times three quarters of what was brought in, alwayes beleiveing that the Merchants ought to make Satisfaction for what Cloth was not according to Muster, for fear of ye troubles of ye Country, should make the Merchants insolvent and uncapable to Render Satisfaction for their Hon^rs^ Debt, for money advanced to them on their Contract, as the Merch^ts^ at Porto Novo, who to this Day have not cleared their Debt for money advanced to them on their Contract, and can sware safely, I nor none of mine, directly or indirectly ever tooke one cash as a bribe to wrong or prejudice ye R^t^ Honble Company, and if all others concerned in ye Sorting and Embaleing ye Said Cloth, can say as much then (as above) the merchants should make their Hon^rs^ Satisfaction for any loss they may have Sustained by any cloth that came not duely to Muster, wherefore I question not, from their Hon^rs^ most impartiall Justice they will require the Saddle to be laid on ye right horse, for ever since I served the R^t^ Honble Company for this twenty two years past, I did (in my Severall Stations) serve them with all care, and fidelity, and to the best of my Judgment and understanding, for Selfe interest never byassed, (not haveing Rec^d^ the usuall ꝑquesets due to me) to their prejudice, as partly may appear, by my want of wherewith to support me and my ffamily (a wife and three small Children) it never being my principle to make hay while ye Sunn shines by any unjust or fraudulent wayes, whereby to reape or acquire an estate unjustly, knowing well, it never wants a Curse to accompany it, wherefore I hope ye R^t^ Honble Company out of their wonted generous goodness to their faithfull and ancient Servants will restore me to their Honble service wch hath been for soe many years ye only maintenance for me and family, In the Interim, if your Hon^r^ and Wors^p^ &c^a^ please to give me some employ for a maintenance, I shall humbly acknowledge it, with all Diligence and ffidelity and remaine

Most respectfully
Your Hon^rs^ & Wors^ps^ &c^a^ most obedient
& faithfull Servant
DANIELL GYFFORD.

Madrass y^e^ : 16 July.

20TH. Rec^d^ Generall lre from Fort S^t^. David Dated ye 16th Inst^t^ accompanyed with their Expence Conicoply Gruapa, also adviseing that they are in great hopes of getting Rama Linga ye Mint Braminy, who had lately made his escape to Chellumbrum ffort for shelter, for his crimes committed by coyning falce fanams &c^a^.

Capt James Bett Commandar of ye Soldiers departed this life about 3 of ye clock in ye afternoon, occasioned as 'tis thought by ye bite of a Mad Dogg, that had bitt him about six weeks past.

21. Shipp Sainta Maria, belonging to Cogee Fraut an Armenian Inhabitant of this place, William Dixon Master Sailed for Bengall.

Received a Gen^ll^ lre from Vizagapat^m^ dated 30th June, adviseing ye Seir Lasscar gives them great trouble in stoping y^r^ goods in ye Country under pretence of Custome, but Speaks & writes them faire.

Dispatcht a Generall lre to Fort St. David^s^.

ATT A CONSULTATION

MONDAY 25.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R^ PRESID^T^ GOVERN^R^
MR NATH^LL^ HIGGINSON MR W^M^ FRASER.

After many treatyes with the R^t^ Honble Comp^as^ Merch^ts^ to engage upon an Investment in Course goods for the Dorathy and expected Europe shipping, they haveing thus long delayd the time upon excuses, of the Warrs and troubles

—— FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1692 ——

in the Country, the Scarcity of Materialls, and Weavers, most of them being [25TH] Dead, or removed to other parts, they alsoe standing upon very high Rates alledging that the Dutch and French had advanc't 20 ℔c^t to their Merchants upon the former prises of their Cloth, but we are not Satisfyed in the truth thereof, suposeing it a pretence, they alsoe long insisted upon ye Honble Comp^{as} runing the Risgoe of their trade in the Country that they should bear all losses therein, to raise their termes as high as possible, But at last were by many arguments and much perswasions, disswaded from that unreasonable Demand, as alsoe by telling them of ye Honble Companyes displeasure for their so long neglecting their buisness, wch their Continuance of would endanger their dismistion from their Service, they doe therefore now agree & Contract for an Investment of Course goods Viz^t Long cloth ord^{ry} White, Blew, Brown, and Sallampores to ye amount of Pago^{ds} 40000 to be brought in by the 10th January next, if possible; and that ye troubles & Warrs in the Country doe not prevent them, for wch we are to advance noe more then 8 ℔ cent upon the last prises, notwithstanding the great Scarcety, and Difficulty of procureing goods, and 'tis agreed that we pay them 10000 pago^{ds} in hand and the rest as they bring in their goods & that the Honble Company, be at noe hazard in their Trade or Suffer loss of their goods by Warrs, troubles, or any other accident or disaster, that may happen in the Country not being to be charged to ye Honble Comp^{as} acco^t till the goods are sorted and deliver'd, But their being but two musters of Ord^y Long Cloth N°. 3 & 2 wch occasions great Disputes and differences wth ye Merchants in sorting to prevent wch tis agreed that two other proportionable musters be made Viz^t N°. 2 + and N°. 1 that ye Sortment may be more just and equall; the last prices Viz^t:

				pagos.	fan.	
Long Cloth ord^{ry}. ···		N°. 3	at	25 :	20	℔ corge.
Do.	do.	2		24 :	18	Do.
Do.	do.	2+...		23 :	16	Do.
Do.	do.	1		22 :	...	Do.
Long Cloth blew N^o. D		... ...		28 :	27	Do.
Sallampores ord^{ry}.		N°. 9		11 :	5	Do.
Do.	do.	3		10 :	25	Do.

whereon according to agreement we are to advance 8 ℔ cent.

The President read his acco^t Cash for ye month of June wch was past errors excepted the Ballance being Pago^{ds} 14025 : 14 : 5.

Mr William Proby paid into ye Honble Comp^{as} Cash for Mr Gray, on acco^t of Sea Customes formerly due pag^{os} 3800, Mr Mildmay Provisionall Land Customer paid into Cash pag^{os} 274 : 25 : 1 on acco^t Land Customes reading his acco^{ts} for ye month of June wch was past errors excepted.

Mr Higginson deliverd in ye Say Masters report of the Fort S^t. David^s fan^{ms} wch by the Standard of that place ought to be 4¼ Matt fine, but by tryall in our Mint were found to be as followes Viz^t 10 fan^{ms} sent with ye Fort St David Generall lre of ye 12th Curr^t supposed to be good, are but 4 Matt, and the 17 Counterfeit fan^{ms} but ¼ Matt alsoe 5 fan^{ms} Deliverd by Eramraza as part of ye fan^{ms} Coynd ye first of July 1 Matt, notorious Sadd Cheats.

Mr Matthew Empson with his Indentures, addrest himselfe to ye Councell, acquainting them that his time of 5 years ffactorship, was expired the 20th Instant, wch the Councell being Satisfyed in, he is according to ye Honble Comp^{as} orders to Commence Junr Merch^t and William Bowdler who came out ye sametime a writer for 5 years, order'd to Commence ffactor.

ELIHU YALE.
NATH: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

Briggantine Gingerlee Mr Peter Russell Master Sailed for Fort St David. 31.

Contract made with Timopa & Allingall Pille &c^a Joynt Stock Merchants of Madrass to ye amount of 40000 Pagodaes in Course goods, for acco^t of y^e

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—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* ——

Honble Company to be brought in by the ultimo January next at 8 ℘ cent advance upon the last prices, and to pay them pagods 10000, now and the rest as they bring in their goods, the merchants to be under the same obligation and Penalty as formerly. Sortment of Callicoes to be provided vizt:

			Pa	fa.	
Long cloth Ordry	No. 3	... ... at	25	20	℘ corge.
Do.	No 2	... ...	24	18	
Do.	No 2+	... ...	23	16	
Do.	No 1	... ...	22	0	Peeces 14000.
Long cloth Blue	No. D	... ...	28	27	℘s 4000.
Long cloth Browne	No 2	... ...	24	18	℘s 2000.
Sallampores ordry	No. 9	... ...	11	5	
Do.	No 3	... ...	10	25	℘s 16000.
Ginghams 40 Covds long	No 35	... ...	3	0	℘ ps.
Do.	No 34 +	... ...	2	27	
Do.	No 33 +	... ...	2	18	℘s 1000.

Eight ℘ cent to be advanct upon ye above said prices.

THE MERCHANTS OBLIGATION.

Wee the Rt Honble Compas Chief Merchants of Fort St George, Doe for our Selves and Company hereby agree and oblige our Selves to the Due performance of ye aforementioned Contract with ye President & Councell for accot of ye Rt Honble Compa for the Severall Sorts and quantities to be brought and Deliverd in Fort St George by the last of January next upon Penalty of 25 ℘ Cent for what we shall fall short of therein, by that time only excepting ye Impediments of Warr and al other unavoydable accidents and necessityes, by Robbery's or other Stops or oppressions from ye Country Government &ca wch ye President &a are to endeavour to clear, in Wittness whereof we have hereunto Sett our hands and Seales this ℘mo: day of August anno: 1692.

FRANCIS BETT Secry.

భేరి తింమ్మన వ్రాలు.
சிவகடாக்ஷம் ஆலங்காத்த. (Seal.)
ముగ్గప్ప చెవ్రాలు

ముద్దువీరంన్న వ్రాలు. (Seal.)

సూరా వెంకట్రమాని వ్రాలు. (Seal)

காரணப்ப செட்டி.

அய்யப்பன். (Seal.)

పసుమర్తి బావప్ప వ్రాలు.
சரவணன். (Seal.)

కస్తూరి రంగం వ్రాలు.
కొవ్వూరవు కాశి వ్రాలు. (Seal.)

பெரியதம்பி செட்டி.

—— FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692 ——

Dispatcht a Generall lre for Fort St David. 2D

Recd a Generall from Fort St David dated ye 29th July ꝑ boat 3.
accompanyed with 10 ꝑsons Sent from thence, to be examin'd here upon Erram Razs complaints against them, wth a box and two Fardles containing ye accots of ye Minters, & Expence Braminy Gruapa.

Recd a Genll from Ditto dated ye 29th past month ꝑ boat accompanyed 5.
with 4 ꝑsons more on said accot for examination.

Recd a Generall from Ditto dated the 30th past month accompanyed with their Powder maker, and three ꝑsons more to be examin'd for their frauds & knaveryes, alsoe advising they have agreed to give 50 pagods as a present to ye Avaldar of Chellembrum for his delivery of Rama Linga the Mint Chief Braminy by wch means they hope to gett him to Justice. And that a great Party of Marrattas, Sett upon ye Mogulls at Pollichery and tis reported that two Marrattas of noat was wounded & alsoe Russell Cawne ye Mogulls Commander.

The Pearle ffriggot belonging to ye Rt Honble Compa Capt Periman Commander Saild from Batavia in Aprill last, wth a Ladeing of Pepper from the West Coast, & a Generall lre from ye Deputy Governr Sowden &ca of York Fort, wch informs us that they have Cutt off Orankey Lillos head for Severall crimes he was accused of, and found guilty, Since wch they have lived in peace wth the Mallayes. They write for a Supply of money, Generall Stores, ffactors Provissions and Soldiers. And twas orderd that the Warehousekeeper [unlade] the Pearls Pepper and weigh it ashore Since twill be too long & dangerous [to keep] it aboard on the Dorathy.

Mr Thomas Gray departed this life about 8 of ye Clock last night of an imposthume in his Liver as the Doctors Report, & was Interred this day Evening from ye Honble Compas new garden house, accompanyed by most of ye English in Town with a Company of Soldiers; and as Capt of the Citty Trainbands, had three Volleys, and 10 peeces of Ordinance fired at his Interment.

Shipp Curtania Capt Anto Weltden Commander arrived from China, and in 10TH
his way Toucht at Acheen upon whom Mr Richard ffarmer ffactor Return'd and orderd in his Station as formerly, in ye Honble Compas Servise, but noe wages or allowances to be allowed him dureing his absence, they acquaint us that they mett ye Bencoolen ffriggott Capt Walthrope Commander wthout the Straits of Mallacca bound for Tonqueen in good Condition and well mand.

ATT A CONSULTATION — THURSDAY 11TH.

Present:

ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDT & GOVERNOR
MR NATHLL HIGGINSON MR WM FRASER.

The President read his accot Cash for ye month July wch was past Errors excepted the Ballance being Pagods 31449 : 3 fa.

The Pearle ffriggott after a tedious Voyage being arrived from the West Coast via Batavia with a Cargoe of Round Pepper, twill be too long & dangerous to Continue it a board for ye Dorathy, 'tis therefore orderd to be brought ashore, and tho: tis of absolute necessity to supply their wants at Yorke Fort, wch we doubt are very Pressing, and Should returne ye Shipp would ye [season] ꝑmitt of it besides there is noe Dollars procureable, and therefore tis agreed and orderd that She Sailes directly for Bengall by ye 20th of this present month, and that ye Agent &ca be advised to keep her in good Repaire, and to Returne her hither with provissions by the 10th December next, that she may prosecute her design'd Voyage of Supplying the West Coast with Dollars which we hope to procure by that time, either from Europe or Mannilla.

Mr William ffraser Warehousekeeper paid into the Right Honble Compas Cash Pagods 500 for rice &ca Sold out of ye warehouse last month.

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* ——

Mr John Pitt Rentall Generall gave in his accots for the two last years Quitt Rents amounting to Pagods 1375 : 1⅛ fanm whereof there Stands out in Debts pagods 205 : 18 all charges deducted he paid ye Ball into the Honble Compas Cash, being Pagods 1169 : 19⅛ and is orderd to deliver that charge to Mr Troughton as formerly appointed to that Employment.

Edwd Tredcroft. Mrs Nathll Tredcroft, John Meverell & Robert Cranwell, their Covenants time for ffactors being Expired ye 22 July last, request they may take their degrees of Merchants according to ye Honble Companyes Rules, wch is agreed to.

Vencattee Puttee ffort St David Chief Dubash deliverd in his answere to ye Severall Complaints he is charged with by Eram Raza &ca wch orderd to be entred after this Consultation and the buisness brought to examination on Munday next most of the Wittnesses against him being now arrived from Cuddalore.

The Honble Compas Merchants being very urgent for the old Custome of Tasheriffs, they haveing Signed their Contract for a new Investment, 'tis orderd that soe soone as any Scarlett arrives, that they be Tasherift with it as accustomary.

Mr Thomas Wright Provisionall Paymaster, read his accots for the month of June, wch was past errors excepted.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

TO THE HONBLE ELIHU YALE ESQR
PRESIDT & GOVERNR &CA COUNCILL.
The humble Petition of Ketty Vencattee Puttee.

Humbly Sheweth :—

That whereas Eram Raza, hath impeach'd your Petitioner of Severall crimes to your Honr &ca Councill, for haveing wronged ye Rt Honble Compa in many particulars of wch I never was guilty either in thought, word, or deede, in the imploy, your Honor &ca Councill was pleased to conferr upon me, & presume to give your Honr &ca Councill this account in my owne defence wch is naturall to all men.

First for ye Broad cloth my Brother Narapa sent to me to buy him 20 peeces, at ye same time others were abuying, so I bought of Milapa Chitty 20 ℘s for accot of my Brother who afterwards, wrote me word he would not runn ye hazard of them, by sea, and orderd me to dispose of them at what price I could gett for them soe after 40 or 50 dayes I sold 13 pieces by small parcells at 23 pagods and 25 pagos ℘ peece in 2 months time, and the other 7 peeces Millapa Chittee sold for my Accot at pagos 24 & 25 likewise in two months time, this is all I know about ye Broad Cloth.

As to ye [Corall ye] Worspll Deputy Governor, &ca Councell [. . . agree with] ye Porto Novo & Patchecuddy Merchts for the Corrall, when 5 or 6 dayes after Checcaserapa a Puddycherry Merchant, wrote a letter to me, and sent ye Merchts along with it, whom I carryed to ye Worspll Deputy Governor, and acquainted him with ye Contents of said letter, wherein they offered 3 or 4 pagods ℘ maund more then it was sold for, to wch he answer'd it was disposed of and he could not goe back from his word; some time after the Patchycuddy Merchants carryed away ye Corrall to the Southward, and at that time they gave 30 Pagods out of their own good will, the Governor of Porto Novo stopping Said Corrall, they came back and complained to the Deputy Governor, who order me to goe and gett it deliverd them againe, wch I did, and said merchants defrayed my charges, and presented me with 45 pagods of their own accord and good will, this is the very truth concerning the Corrall I gave said merchants a small Collation, and a present to the Vallue of 10 Pagods.

As to ye Gunpowder makers I declare they never gave me more then 5 pagods in all at my wedding & other ffestivalls.

——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 16692* ———

As to ye Mint People from ye first Settling of ye Fort untill now, I never rec^{d} of them but at my wedding & ffestival times above ye Vallue of 40 or 50 [chacarras,] they lent me 10 Chacarras for my Expences, wch I still owe them, this is all I ever rec^{d} of them. The Sheroffs acquainting me that ye fan^{ms} which were coyned in the Mint were less then the Matt, I acquainted the Governor &c^{a} Councell who sent for ye Mint People, and they denying it, I was orderd by them to melt some downe in my own house, wch was Really found to be of a less matt, soe they were ordered to be deliverd into ye Custody of ye Talliars. This is all I know of the Mint People.

As [for y^{e}] People that come runing from their enimies [. . .] frighted any, nor demanded [any . . . monyes for] their cattle, when their Enimies [. . .] under them, ye Worsp^{ll} Deputy Governor orderd [some Talliars] and Peons to fetch them in, wch being in [our . . .] the owners gave me 20 Pago^{s} to distribute [. . . ye Talliars] and Peons, wch gave Capt Lessly [. . .] Peons, of whom your Hon^{r} &c^{a} Councill may [. . .]

As to [. . . the R^{t} Honble] Comp^{a} of the Custome of my [own goods . . .] I never did it.

As to my conspiring with ye Mogulls People to bring them to ffort St David that they might invade the Marrattas Country it is most falsely untrue.

Concerning Selling the Honble Comp^{as} ground at Cuddalore and Tegnapatam, there being some wast ground, I built a small Thatched house with my owne money which I sold for 11 pago^{ds}, I also built a Tiled Banksall wch the Honble Comp^{as} Merchants haveing occasion for I sold them for 65 pagodaes.

All these accusations wch Eram Razo hath most mallitiously Slanderd me with all, are most false and unjust, for since my Imprisonment, Peda Razo Cousin to said Eram Razo, at ffort St David, he did incite Severall Persons belonging to ye mint, to avouch that they had given me severall sums of money, which I can prove by Sufficient Wittnesses, when your Hono^{r} &c^{a} Councill shall please to require it.

Soe humbly casting myselfe and case at Your Hon^{rs} &c^{a} Councills feet, I earnestly implore you would be pleased to grant me a faire and Legall Tryall that soe I may endeavour my owne defence and make my Innocency appear.

And as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c^{a}.

August 11th : 1692. VENCATTEE PUTTEE.

[TO THE HON^{BLE} ELIHU] YALE ESQ^{r}.
PRESID^{T} [& GOVERN^{R} &C^{A} COUNCILL AT FORT] S^{T} GEORGE.

Your Hon^{r} &c^{a} may please to remember that on y^{e} [. . .] of May last ye Secretary [. . .] to acquaint M^{r} [Nicks] the R^{t} Honble [. . .] dismissing him their Service [. . .] was done as may appear by the [. . .] ye aforesaid Date. But [. . . ye 30th of June . . . Consultation] your honour was pleased to [. . .] and Mr Gyfford sent for to whom your Hon^{r} read that Paragraph of ye R^{t} Honble Comp^{as} Generall l̃re ℘ Shipp Dorathy, wch dismissed them jointly the Honble Comp^{as} Service, and then your Hon^{r} orderd ye Secretary to deliver a Copie of said Paragraph for them to give answere to, a thing never before practicall since my being upon ye place, in wch time I have seen severall of ye Honble Comp^{as} Servants dismissed their Hon^{rs} Service, but know not one Instance like this, because the Honble Comp^{a} in their Generall l̃re^{s} speak to their President and Council, and not to Mr Nicks &c^{a} tho their Hon^{rs} speak of him, yet it is to us, and when a charge in behalfe of ye R^{t} Honble Comp^{a} is exhibited against Mr Nicks, then it is his time to justifie, and Vindicate himself if he can, wch method he ought not anticipate.

At a Consultation on ye 5th July following, Mr Nicks brought and deliverd the President, that bold Disrespectfull Paper, wch he calls his Vindication, and was read, wch for ye manner and matter it containes, Mr Higginson & myselfe disented to its being Entered, but never the less, was by ye Presid^{ts} Single order to the Secretary, wch for some dayes I knew not of, untill the Consultations

—— FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692 ——

came to me to be signed, wch is ye occasion, of my giveing your Hon^{r} &c^{a} the trouble of y^{e}: following answere or remarks upon ye said confident Paper, in wch I shall be as brief as I can.

M^{r}. Nicks in ye begining of his Paper after a long repetition of ye Causes and reasons given by the Honble Comp^{a} for dismissing him their Hon^{rs} Service, he humbly requests your Hon^{r} &c^{a} to accept impartially, ℘use and Consider his Own Vindication, the rather because they proceed from malicious endeavours to [blame] and ruin him, & his, a bold and foul reflection from a Department, Especially when ye matter of fact is apparent & himselfe [. . .] to confess in his Paper notwithstanding his many excuses [. . . . , to stifle] the truth, wch if he does but confess that [. . . lyes] in his [head] cannot deney the great, abuse done the Honble Comp^{a} in that Sortment, wch being all or mostly Course, leaves M^{r}. Nicks the more unexcusable, there needing not that exact & curious Judgment in sorting Course Cloth by a Muster, as is, and ought to be in those that Sorte very fine Cloth.

The shamefull badness of ye Conimeere Cloth has been examined attested, & is registred, & lett M^{r}. Nicks but looke back into ye Honble Comp^{as} orders, concerning their Servants bad Sortments, and the Penaltyes, and punishments to be inflicted for the same, or ye late case of M^{r}. John Davis, wch M^{r}. Nicks himselfe by his Severall gen^{ll} l̃res: from Cuddalore to this place, was or happened to be see ingeniously honest then, as to acknowledge that of M^{r}. Davis's to have been a bad and unjust Sortment, therefore lett M^{r}. Nicks tell us if he can from wch of all these proceeds the Mallicious endeav^{rs} to Ruine him & his.

M^{r}. Nicks needed not have valued himself so much upon ye Contract for an Investment of Pago^{ds} 30000 he made at Conimeere upon ye old musters, and better termes and prices, than formerly made by his Predicessors, wch musters I take to be the same, upon ye sorts we have here, and were sent to Conimeere Cudalore and Porto Novo, when those ffactoryes were first settled in President Gyffords time, the prices upon them are more and dearer then that upon ye same sorts here as may appeare by the Contract itself made at Conimeere in October Anno 1688 by M^{r}. Nicks and M^{r}. Devett a weake raw young man, M^{r}. Holcombe but a few dayes before by a subtile Contrivance was sent hither with a flea in his Eare and then the Contract was struck up and made sure with the Merchants, wch M^{r}. Holcombe upon those termes could not agree to, as not being so advantagious to ye Honble Comp^{a} as former Contracts, made in M^{r}. Willcox time, & yet M^{r}. Nicks in his Paper sayes that their Musters and prices upon ye sorts are inferiour to the same here w^{ch} [. . .] leave implies a Contradiction to his former in [same paper] as may appear by the Contract itself, notwithstanding the abatement of 6 ℘ cent over and above the [Madras] abatement.

M^{r}. Nicks may remember that in [y^{e}] said year 88: & much about the same time theirs at Conimeere, a Contract was made with ye Merchants here for an Investment of about Pago^{ds} 40000 yett noe bad Cloth was Embaled nor any bad debts made by the Merchants to the Honble Comp^{a} who might as reasonably made the same pretences and excuses by the trouble in ye Country (as may appear by the Consultations & Diaries of those times) as M^{r}. Nicks makes in his Paper for the Conimeere Merchants.

M^{r}. Nicks proves himselfe very Ignorant, or very little conversant with the Honble Comp^{as} Gen^{ll} l̃res when he sayes it is not a Chiefs buisness to sort any Cloth, when the Contrary is not only positively injoyn'd, but likewise orderd to inspect the sortment of others, under his care and charge as Chief, and this has been the R^{t}. Honble Comp^{as} Speciall orders as may more at large appeare, if réference be had to their Hon^{rs} Severall former & Latter Letters.

As to what M^{r}. Nicks instances of ye price given here upon the Longcloth Ord^{ry} of Conimeere, much good do it ye buyers that adventured it to Manilla, where it sold for less then prime cost here.

The former Chiefs of the southern ffactories did soe well contrive and manage ye buisness in that point that they made noe bad debts, from ye Merchants to

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ye Honble Comp^a^, but on ye contrary their Hon^rs^ were sometimes indebted to ye Merchants more or less, untill the Investment was finished, wch served indifferently to oblige the Merch^ts^ complyance with their Contract. But M^r^. Nicks contrary to the Methods of his Predecessiors makes a Contract at Porto Novo for an Investment of Pag^os^ 30000 not with the Chief and Principall old Merchants of y^t^ Place, but with their Servants, who was guided according to the dictates of their Masters the Merch^ts^, whence proceeded those bad debts to the Honble Comp^a^ the Chief Merch^ts^ themselves appearing but seldome before Mr Nicks, and that but when they pleased Saying they had signed noe obligation or Contract or were under any to the [Honble Comp^a^] so much was Mr Nicks & his management of [. . . contemned] by his own imprudence w^ch^ [. . .] those bad debts, whereof [. . .] and is in good hopes of ye rest [. . .] Porto Novo could not retrive ever since [. . .] and therefore I thinke [Deputy Govern^r^] Hatsell deserves rather commendation than any [such . . .] as Mr Nicks Paper gives him.

Mr Nicks is likewise much mistaken, and makes a wrong position, where he sayes that the Longcloth blue of Conimeere would doubtless have sold well here, had it been ordered and put to sale, wch indeed was orderd, but noe ℘son would looke upon it, tho considerable quantities of blue Cloth was Transported hence, as well as imported from Fort St David by perticular ℘sons, but Mr Nicks should have Remembred that 22 of the Conimeere Bales (of wch 12 were Long cloth blue) were Laden aboard the Saphire in August 90 Capt Tuer Com̃ander bound for ye Ports of Acheen and Bencoolen, at ye former they could not sell, tho : others of their kind (but better) did to a considerable proffite as times went, soe that they were carried to ye West Coast, but no acco^t^ of their sales by the Saphire ffriggott, & Stayd long there but was ye last that came thence.

As to what is further urged that many Bales were Sorted at Conimeere after the Chief left the Place, The Godownkeeper's Books can best declare, when they are Seen, meantime no more is acknowledged to have been Sorted in Mr Nicks absence then 60 or 60 odd Bales however lett Mr Nicks tell us whose sortment those bales were, that was sent to his house here in Town & there opened, and veiwed as well as the six Bales that were Sent hence to Conimeere, and whose notes were found in said Bales.

Mr Nicks referrs himself to ye Books of acco^ts^ in ye matter of ye ffactory Expences, when he knows we have not had or Seen any books of acco^ts^ of that Place since Mr Holcombe^s^ time, who was hurried away thence in haste, wch was [in October] 1688 but brought up the Books [. . .]

[. . . desire] (pretendiug buisness) [. . .] here the 4th March [. . .] since, wch if ye Country [. . .] he would make us beleive, why did he leave [. . .] and the Honble Comp^as^ Estate and Concernes [. . .] in so much danger, besides Chiefs, when they come here upon their own buisness (as he did, as may appear by his generall letters of that time) are not allowed Dyet money, if so why was not Mr Nicks paid by the former Paymaster, my Predecessor, who was a long time in that Employ, after Mr Nicks arrived here, and dureing my owne time, in the aforesaid Employ, I had no order of Councill for paying him any Dyett money, wch I think ought to be for all disbursments of ye Comp^as^ Cash, that is not in the Ordinary or Customary manner.

Mr Nicks may remember that ever Since he has been here from Conimeere, was never sent for as I can think before ye Presid^t^ & Councill to be censured for his ill management of affaires, by all wch he cannot but confess to have more favour shown him hitherto, then Mr Davis had in ye like and same Case, as to that part of his pert & confident Paper, that I have threatned and exclaimed against him, it is well known I have no Conversation with him, neither in publique or private, nor had I ever any intimacy with him, true it is once formerly, and once lately, Since ye Dorathy arrived here, I did speak and desire of the President & Councell, that Mr Nicks & Mr Gyfford might be orderd to be present in ye Godown at ye opening & Veiwing their Conimeere Cloth, that their own reason, understanding, & the sence of their own seeing might convince him or them of the shamefull basness

[11TH] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* ——

buisness and badness of that Sortment as I then told Mr Nicks, and have Said and do say still, that he has done very ill, and undutifull by ye Honble Comp^a the matter of ffact proveing itself as plaine as a true Diall Showes ye time of day when the Sun Shines clear, notwithstanding all ye Endeavours he uses (in his prevaricating paper) to clear himself by, but he forgetts how disrespectfully he has carryed himself to me, in not affording the usuall civilitie, or Salute of ye Cerimonie of his hatt wch I value not but has past over in Silence, yet is an indication of the temper of ye Creature though am apt to thinke, he may be Buoyed up in it, and wonder y^e [more if ?] the hand of Joab Job be in all this, w^ch [I am] sure is contrary to ye Honble Comp^an Orders in their Severall letters an abstract of wch clauses I have now ready to produce. I humbly desire your Hon^r &c^e to consider ye premises as they [. . .] and that I speak free of all [partiallity] for and in [. . .] ye Honble Comp^a I am with all respect

Honourable &c^ca.

Your Hon^rs &c^ca Most hum^ble Servant

Fort St George July ye 30th 1692. WILLIAM FRASER.

Hono^ble S^r & Councell.

I have given in Severall Petitions to your Hon^r & Councill, that I might understand the nature of ye charge Mr Fraser and some deceas'd Gentlemen of yor Councill said they had to give against me, but satisfaction as to that perticular, has (either by your Hon^rs &c^a more weighty affaires or my accusers non-abillity's to ℘forme what they threatned) been so long delayd that all save one of those Gentlemen are dead, and poore accused I am in a manner left to undergoe the sensure of a too Credulous and long Tongu'd world, who from the groundless, and mallicious Character^s those Gentlemen in their life times may have blazoned abroad, may Judge me guilty of crimes Impardonable, and be ye occation of my utter Ruin, as it has allready been of no small expence and charge too me, this Threatning Storme is ye reason why I reapetition your Hon^r & Councill for Justice, and doe begg that you will please to oblige surviueing Mr Fraser, who is as Subject to mortallity as other men, to produce what he or those Gentlemen had or have to Say against me; for Sullied reputation must be Cleared are too late, & I'll hazerd my all, rather then ley under ye Imputation of Villainey.

My next request is that M^r ffraser non abillity to prove me guilty of wronging my Masters, may be noe hindrance to my preferrment and Succession to Imployment in my Masters affaires, who have not as yet given me a quietus, and as I stand at ℘sent give me leave without offence to acquaint your Hon^r and Councill that I am Senr to all next yourselves, who have been actually in their Hon^rs Service since June 83 from wch time I received [£30] ℘ ann̄ Sallery as Merchant & Joynt Chief in [Conimeere wth Mr Strangh] as will appear by Instructions given us by our R^t Honble Masters, which may (if not still managed by one of Councill) plead my prerogative to Mr Thomas Grays Imployment, which if conferr'd on me I shall with honest dilligence labour in to ye utmost of my capassity.

Honble S^r &c^a

Fort St George ye 10th August 1692. I am your very humble Servt

THO: YALE.

12TH Dispatcht a Generall lr̄e for Vizagapatam, permitting Mr Owens Stay there till ye 25 December next, & not longer.

Received a Generall lr̄e from Fort St David Dated ye 10th Instant, with their
14 Mint Masters acco^t of how many fan^ms has been Coyn'd since their first Commencement of ye Mint at Cudaloore wch amo^ts to Chuckarums 121697 fa 9 they have sent up 10 fan^ms & 1 pag^o to be tryd in our Mint, to see if they hold out Matt as they ought to doe.

They acquaint us that ye French at Pollicherry are in great expectation of their Fleet, and makeing preparations in getting much Provissions &^a.

——FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692—— [14TH]

Rama Linga Mint Chief Bramany they suppose is protected in the Eccogees Country, & twill be a hard matter to gett him out.

They desire us to send them more Salt Petre haveing disposed of what formerly Sent them.

ATT A CONSULTATION

MUNDAY 15TH

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESID^T & GOVERN^R
MR NATH^LL HIGGINSON MR W^M FRASER.

Mr Thomas Gray being dead ye Sea Customers Place[is]Vacant, & Mr Higginson haveing but little buisness [at present] is orderd to inspect into that place & charge.

Mr William Fraser Werehousekeeper paid into the R^t Honble Comp^as Cash Pago^ds 617 fa 29 being soe much rec^d by [freight] of ye Honble Comp^as Shipping.

[. . .] day for examining ye Complaints against [Vencattee ye St David^s] Dubash, he &^ca were accordingly sent for, & [. . .] charge against him publickly read, as likewise his answere thereto, as allsoe the Severall Wittnesses declarations concerning him, wch were read in Gentue Severally to them, of whom twas Demanded whither they still approved & confirmd their enformations, as allsoe whether, they were not led to it by mallice or bribery to injure said Vencattee or if they had any former difference with him, to which they Seperately answer'd in the Negative, and that they firmly stood to their said declarations, and were redy to prove and Swear to ye trueth thereof, wch Vencattee desireing they might doe, they were accordingly orderd to be carry'd to ye Gentue Pagoda and there Sworne to the trueth of their severall attestations before their Pago^ds, according to the Strictest way & Cerremonyes, of their Religion and Superstitions; But that before this the Secretary and Vincattee &^ca doe Strictly Compair the translates with ye Gentue Originall papers that there may be noe pretence, or reflection on that Score and that Vincattee might have ye liberty of chooseing whom he pleased to speak for him or to ye Wittnesses and tis orderd that on Wednesday morning wee meete againe, to proceed upon ye examination of this buisness.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

THE [. . .] OATH.

First they must [bathe in] the Pagoda Tanck & Wear [flower garland] about their Neck, then [goe into ye pagoda] and before the Image Drink a [. . of] Holy water, wch is that wch their Pago^ds are washt in, and after this declare what they know relateing to the buisness in question.

ATT A CONSULTATION

WEDNESDAY 17TH

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESID^T & GOVERNOUR
MR NATH^LL HIGGINSON MR W^M FRASER.

THE EXAMINATION OF ERAM RAZO & MULLAPA AGAINST VINCATTEE PUTTEE CHIEF DUBASH OF FFORT S^T. DAVID VIZ^T.

As to the first article concerning ye underselling ye Comp^as Broad cloth, Vincattee Dubash acknowledges that he bought 20 ps^s of Milapa at 22 pag^os ℘ peece, and sold ye same in two months time at 24 & 25 p^a ℘ peece, tho: said Merch^ts sold some for 25¾ ℘ peece, and by the warehousekeepers acco^t here in December last as appears the President sold for 30 p^a y^e ½ps^s Said Merchant alsoe

[17TH]. — *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* —

declares that he allowed Vincattee $\frac{1}{4}$ pa upon each peece he bought of the Honble Compa, & one fanam to ye Warehousekeepers Servant wch is now own'd by Vincattee besides what paid ye Honble Compa for it.

To the 2d Article concerning the Corrall sold to ye Porto Novo Merchts Vincattee Dubash sayes ye Pollicherry Merchants did after the Corrall was disposed of offer a better price then twas sold for, wch we acquainted ye Deputy Governr &ca with, who replyed it was too late they could not receede from ye bargaine they had made before, said Vincattee alsoe confesses he recd 30 pa from said Merchts upon makeing the Contract & afterwards 45 pa as [a gratuity] for clearing said Corrall, wch was Stopt at Porto Novo to Guppill Punditt, but ye Corrall Merchts that bought said Corrall declare that it cost them in Presents to Vincattee, Chellembrum &ca 280$\frac{1}{2}$ Pagods for Contracting for, & clearing the said Corrall, And the Pollicherry Merchts writt a letter to us, that they did offerr 10 ⅌ cent more for ye Corrall, then what it was sold for, but their letter is without date, soe know not whither twas before or after said Corrall was disposed off to ye Porto Novo Merchts, but it appears that Mr Hatsell &cas Consultation about ye sale of said Corrall was dated 7 dayes before Serrapas letter from Pollicherry to Vincattee wherein he &ca offers a greater price for ye Corrall then twas sold for, But Braminee Eram Raza declares there was Offers made about ye Corrall before Serrapas letter therefore desires that ye Said Pollicherry Corrall Merchants may either be Examin'd there, or at ffort St Davids by Reason ye Wayes are soe dangerous that they dare not come hither, tis therefore agreed that Mr Hatsell &ca Councill doe Examine this buisness at ffort St David, & report the same to us.

18. To the 3d article concerning their charge against him is for defrauding the Honble Compa in their Stores of Oyle, Wood, Bricks, Chinam, Cooleys & Ground.

To the first Vincatte confesses that he recd 10 Seere of Oyle monthly from Griapa Store Bramany, who likewise confirm the Delivery of the Same out of ye Honble Compas Stores, & that Bramany Griapa recd of ye Oyleman $\frac{1}{4}$ fanms dustore for what he payes him on ye Honble Compas Accot besides 20 bundles wood he receives from ye woodman monthly, wch Vincattee alsoe confeses, as to their deceat in building, Eram Raza affirmes that they imployed ye Compas Cooleys Bricks, Chinam &ca for their Own use, and referrs to the Books for proof thereof, with many other perticulars Relateing to this Article, Eram Raza, wth Bramany Griapa, & ye Choutry Conicoply &ca are orderd to examine ye accots, and give accot of their frauds therein.

As for the Powder Vincattee Confeses that he received 8 Pagods of the Powder maker, wch is about $\frac{1}{2}$ pago ⅌ Candy wch Mr Hatsell & Councill doe write us they find to be accordingly, & that [Bramany Griapa] recd alsoe $\frac{1}{4}$ pago ⅌ Candy for [. . .] relateing to this article we referr to ye Bramanys Examinations of their accots and thereby demonstrate the same to us.

As to ye Articles of his defrauding the Honble Compa of their Customes, Vincattee Saith tho he did not pay ye Custome to the Conicoplyes, but he paid it to ye English Customers Mr Watts & Mr Constable, and for the truth hereof referrs himselfe to their books and report.

The next article is concerning begging Ground of ye Deputy Governor & building thereon, and afterwards Selling to Proffitt, wch Vincattee in his answere confeses that he sold one house for 11 pagos and another for 65 pagos but denyes to have sold the ground, wch he declares is enterd in ye Honble Compas Books, but Eram Raza Still declares that he has built Severall houses in ye Companyes Territoryes there, wch he offers to prove at Tevenapatam, but Mr Hatsell &ca writes us that to encourage trade & populate ye place they have spared ground to all persons that desired it, to build upon for their Conveniencies, but Bramany Eram Raza to confirme his charge assures us he could and can sell such spare ground at Cuddalore & Tevenapatm to many Persons for a Considerable sume of money, besides the reserveing a yearly Quitt Rent to ye Honble Compa as Proprietors but we suppose if this had been practible [*sic*] ye Deputy Governor &ca Councill would have done somthing therein, or advised us thereof.

— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* — [18TH]

As to ye next article relateing to Vincattee exacting money and presents from ye Poor Natives and others that fled thither for Security and Protection at Cuddalore, Said Vincattee confeses in his answere to have lately rec^d^ 20 pago^ds^ of ye Owners of some recoverd Cattle, wch he Sayes was distributed amongst the Soldiers and Peons, and disowns, to have rec^d^ any thing more, excepting some peeces of Cloth & fruite, wch is accustomary in all India Governm^t^ [but] Eram Raza Sayes he does not insist upon these Small matters, but saith, he can prove by severall now at Cuddalore that said Vincattee exacted severall Considerable sums of money from severalls that come thither to [inhabitt & settle], & names ye following Renters and Merch^ts^ &c^a^ Viz^t^ [*blank*] soe this is alsoe referrdto ye Deputy Governo^r^ &c^a^ to examine the truth hereof, and report the same to us, since ye persons cannot conveniently come hither.

The next Article is concerning Vincattees private Supplying the Moors with Powder and Shott, & inviteing the Moors-Avaldar from Conimeere to St Davids, whose coming occasioned much trouble and charge to ye Company & place, as to ye first Vincattee owns to have Sent 10 M^ds^ Powder to ye Mogulls People at Conimeer, & affirmes it was by the Deputy Govern^rs^ Order, wch they likewise acknowledge in their Gen^ll^ letter of ye 14th July, but as for ye other he utterly denyes; But ye President lately rec^d^ a letter from Russell Cawn, Gennerall of ye Mogulls fforces in those parts Complaining, that Vincattee & Bramany Griapa, had wrote a letter to his People at Conimeere, to invite them to come to St Davids, and they would endeavour to ꝑswade ye Deputy Govern^r^ to assist them against the Morattas and accordingly came, but Vincattee not performing his promise, put their People to very great trouble & charge, besides the disapointment, And on ye other hand ye Maratta was highly Displeased at ye Deputy Govern^rs^ Entertainm^t^ of the Moors, but at last gott ridd of them.

To the last article about ye Notorious Cheat in ffort St David^s^ Mint, The Minters & Talliars being Sworne in ye Pagoda, were examind and doe still affirme and stand to what they wrote in their Severall declarations against Vincattee Dubash, relateing to that matter according to their following depositions Viz^t^ :

Tevenapatam Mint People Declaration.

Rama Linga Chief Mint Bramany of Tevenapatam and Cuddalore being our Chief at Tevenapatam we acted as he orderd us, when we coyned the Mullandore fanams he coyned them less then y^e^: Matt should be, the[n] we asked the Said Rama Linga, why he coyned them less then ye Matt ought to be, to wch he answerd what was that to us, he would answere it to the Comp^a^, and if we would worke we might, or else he would gett others, then we all agreed to acquaint Vincattee of it, some dayes after Vincattee came to Cuddalore, then we invited him on pretence to see our new houses, then we brought a Patch of Cloth & a Shash and laid them before him, and acquainted him that ye Mint Bramany was coyning of fanams less then ye matt, to wch Vincattee answerd Rama Linga is ye man to answere for itt, take your hyre and be quiet, for it is he must answere[;] some dayes after one of our People called Velladundo fell out wth ye Mint Bramany, and asked him, why he made ye fan^ms^ less then Matt, for if any time the Comp^a^ should come to know it, we should quite ruine our houses, upon which Rama Linga went and acquainted Vincattee with it, upon wch Vincattee turned ye said Velladundo out of Town, afterwards Vincattee Sent for the Mint Bramany before ye Deputy Gover^r^ and told him all ye Gold Smiths were Rogues, those you like you may keepe and those you don't, I'll make them be turnd out, Pedda Razoo being ye Comp^as^ Mint Conicoply wee acquainted him of it, to wch he answerd, they intend to put me out of my place, whom shall I make acquainted wth it, soe seeing they were all joynd together, we gave to ye old Mint Bramany Vencapah 10 or 12 fan^ms^ less then matt and an acco^t^ with it [. . .] had Coynd and desired him to goe to Madrass [. . . Honble Govr]

[18TH] ——FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692——

& Councill of it, & told him [. . .] should be free of trou^ble^ Vincattee [. . .] threatned us and Said have a care, you have sent letters to Madrass, I will take away your houses, have patience.

RUDDERAPAH.
JANGALOO.
GRUAPAH.
VINCATADRE GOLDWASHER.

INFORMATION GIVEN IN BY VINCATTE PUTTEE CHIEF TALLIAR OF TEVENAPATAM.

On the 9th of July 1692 on Satterday night about ye time of Duty Sallam when I came to pay my Sallam, Vincattee called me near to ye Deputy Govern^r^ and told me, ye Mint people were to be under my charge, then I askt Vincattee whither I should Secure them, to wch he said they are not Theives, they are honest people, they will not run away then the Mint Bramany and ye Minters went together along with Vincattee, and I remained in ye ffort, & all the people that went with him, took their leave & went to Cuddalore, on Sunday morning, The Goldsmiths and Rama Linga came to Vencatties new house, Vencattee Griapa & Rama Linga, and the rest of ye Minters melted down fanams, and said they had left two of ye Compas Peons with them, and I might leave one of ye Talliars, so I left a Talliar there, and then I went about my buisness, in the Evening I went to Vincattee, who told me the fanms were melted downe, and bid me send for ye Minters and Rama Linga, I made answer he had given leave for all the People to goe away, upon wch he bid me send another Talliar, and Call them againe, so I sent to Cuddalore to call Rama Linga, who told ye Talliar that [he had . . .] Gold Washer, & Jangall Butlu and [. . . came] betimes in the morning [. . .] Talliyar brought, but Vincattee [. . .] so he could not acquaint him on Munday morning, Vincattee sent for me to ye ffort and told me he heard Rama Linga was Runaway, & bid me send People to enquire after him, so I sent Peons everywhere to enquire, who found his Family at Chellimbrum & deliverd them to ye Fort & Town Avaldars, and acquainted all ye Merchts of it.

DALLAVAY VENCATTEE PUTTEE.

FORT ST DAVID MINT CONICOPLY HIS DECLARAC̃ON.

May it Please your Honr &ca to understand that when any Gold was brought into ye Mint to be Coynd I alwaies took an accot thereof, reserving soe much for a Muster to refine it to its utmost matt, wch when perceive itt to agree wth ye rest then order its beating to dust, and then Rama Linga weighs itt off in the presence of Mr Haynes, who together wth myself takes an account thereof, Mr Haynes departing to his other employ, as alsoe myselfe after haveing seen them putt ye said Gold into ye crusibles, Rama Linga alsoe used to receive from ye Merchts as a priviledg, som small parcell of Gold out of ye Dust Gold, wch when refin'd to a high matt, he used to receive out of that, putting ye like weight of Course in leiu thereof, and this is what I thought was Customary so said nothing thereto att that time, but afterwards upon further enquiry of ye Goldsmiths, Minters, Bramanyes &ca I understood twas not soe formerly, but taken since the English governd in those parts, I thought to myselfe twas not like a good Servant to be Silent in this matter and therefore discoverd & acquainted Vincattee with his takeing of fine gold, and puting Course Gold in its room, demanding at ye Same time of Vincattee if should take notice of this or noe, who made answer as to ye weight and matt if twas my buisness or his, or if I had gave an obligation to ye Compa, so finding his answers to me Soe Sharp I took no further notice of ye buisness but lett all rest, after this Vincattee acquainted Rama Linga wth the whole of what I had said, and of what Vincattee gave me for answer, if I were responsible for ye weight & Matt, a little after this Rama Linga came likewise to me & askt me what I had said to Vincattee to wch I said nothing when immediately he reply'd, did not you tell

—FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692— [18TH]

Vincattee that I made gold of a lesser matt then ought to be, and that Vincattee told me I was not accountable for ye weight & matt, upon wch seeing my silence, well said he if you will not tell me Vincattee will, and perceiving them unanimously joynd together I concernd myself no farther in ye buisness, whereupon Rama Linga putt som Silver or other mettall mixt with his fine Gold he had taken, and putt it into ye fine Gold to make good what he had taken thereout, and had oppertůnity presented I beleive he would have taken fine gold & putt alloy in its room ; and thus according to his Own pleasure he managed all those affaires, Mr Haynes and I alwaies departing so soon as the Merch^{ts} gold was weighed, and if at any time I chanct to be there he would never order ye Gold to be made dust, but deferr'd it to be done in the night, som times if Rama Linga and I went to Tevenapatam, Vincattee and Rama Linga they would discourse alwayes at a distance from me, wch perceiving I used to mind my acco^{ts} & not intermeddle with their affaires, but ye Minters &c^{a} often would aske me why I was Silent to their Rogueries being one of Comp^{as} Servants, to wch I gave for answer that they would be responsible for all these things themselves.

BRAMANY TRIPOTY HIS DECLARATION.

Declares that when Merchants brought any gold to the Mint after melting Rama Linga took a muster thereout Sealing the Same up againe, and delivering it to ye Merch^{ts} wch muster Rama Linga haveing tryd he orderd to make into Dust, and if found to be under matt he then would order ye Merchants to put in more fine gold, if fine then to put in more alloy, ye Goldsmiths makeing said Gold into Dust & leaving it with Rama Linga, wch said Rama Linga weighing delivers to the Coyners to be Stampt, and Soe to be deliverd Rama Linga againe after wch Rama Linga askt me how much Duties would come to ye Comp^{a} and how much to ye Minters, wch I gave acco^{t} Soe much to ye Company & soe much to ye Minters & so much for Charity, but notwithstanding ye acco^{t} I gave him, he acted as he pleased keeping acco^{ts} of the same, he kept the Comp^{as} Goldsmiths, Merch^{ts} Goldwashers, priviledges & Charity Acco^{ts} acting therein as he himself pleased.

ATT A CONSULTATION — THURSDAY 18TH.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^{R} PRESID^{T} & GOVERN^{R}
MR NATH^{LL} HIGGINSON MR W^{M} FRASER.

Mr James Wheeler Provison^{ll} Land Customer read his Acco^{ts} of Land Customes for the month of July wch was past errors excepted, and paid into ye Honble Comp^{as} Cash Pago^{ds} 238 :—

Capt James Perriman Commander of ye Pearle ffriggott was sent for and orderd to bring his acco^{ts} of his Voyage which he did, & Mr Higginson and Mr Pitt are orderd to examine them, and report the Expence, Charge, & Seamens wages &c^{a} from his departure hence to Madagascar, the Presid^{t} takeing ye examining of his Mercantile acco^{ts} in ye disposall of ye treasure & goods Sent by him, and to adjust the same.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT : HIGGINSON.
WILL : FRASER.

ATT A CONSULTATION — FRIDAY 19TH.

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^{R} PRESID^{T} & GOVERN^{R}
MR NATH^{LL} HIGGINSON MR W^{M} FRASER.

Mr William Fraser Warehousekeeper read his Acco^{ts} for ye month of July of what bought & sold by him, which was past errors excepted.

Tis orderd that ye Pearle ffriggotts seamen^{s} wages & Impress money be paid them that she may proceed for Bengall & that Capt Perriman remaine here, to

[19TH] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692* ——

Clear his accots of his long Voyages, & 'tis orderd that Capt Richard Harbin be put in his place Commander of ye Pearle, & that 2000 Pagodaes be Deliverd Mr John Pitt Provll Storekeeper to defray said Charges &ca and that she be fitted and Dispatcht with all expedition.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WM: FRASER.

20TH Shipp Tonqueen Mercht Capt Robert Knox Commander imported from the West Coast with about 330 Bahar of Pepper, & brought a Generall lre from the Worspll Charles ffleetwood Deputy Governr of Yorke ffort &ca Councell, wch acquaints us that they are in much want of money & Stores, & that the Dutch are very strong & encroaching in those parts, & fear they must withdraw Indrapore.

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY 22ND

ELIHU YALE ESQR PRESIDT & GOVERNOR
MR NATHLL HIGGINSON MR WM FRASER.

Shipp Tonqueen Mercht Capt Robert Knox Commander arriveing here ye 20th Currt from Bencoolen wth about 330 Bahar Pepper of wch ye Warehousekeeper is orderd to unlade 130 Bar if he can possibly doe it in 2 or 3 Dayes time ye Season of the year being late, and the Monsoon drawing on, tis agreed and orderd that She be imediately dispatcht for Bengall wth 200 Bahar of Pepper either for Sale or to Stow amongst ye Bales as they shall finde requesite, and least they should be wanting of money in Bengall to provide goods for this Shipp & ye Pearl 'tis orderd that 5000 pagods be deliverd the Warehousekeeper to provide if he can possibly 20000 Rupees within the Limitted time, as also 2 or 300 Candy of Tutenage Since we beleive that will advance better in Bengall then Rupees, and tis orderd that what Treasure and other goods will be Laden on ffreight, the Warehousekeeper is orderd to Load the same, upon the following rates Vizt: Treasure ½ ℘ct Pepper 6 ℘ct & Tutenage 4 ℘ct & that ye Agent &ca be advised to returne the Tonqueen hither early in December to Compleat her Cargoe with ours & St Davids Goods or permissive Trade.

Tis orderd that Capt Knox Bill of Exchange be paid according to the terms drawn upon us, by ye Worspll Charles ffleetwood Deputy Governr &ca Councell of ye West Coast ye amot being 1300 Dollars at ye usuall Interest from May last, terms very reasonble & well aproved off, as also 10 £ on accot Mr Charles ffriths Sallary he owing soe much to ye Capt as by their letter & desire.

Mr Stone Assaymaster reported ye Assayes of the Pagoda & fanms last recd from Fort St David as ℘ their Generall lre dated ye 10th Instant Vizt the fanams 3½ matt, & the Pollicatt pagoda 8⅝ matt, wch is according to Standard but ye fanams worse ¾ matt, wch is about 18℘ct; most abominable Cheat.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

28TH Shipp Tonqueen Merchant Capt Robert Knox Commander and the Pearle ffriggott Capt Richard Harbin Commander was Dispatcht yesterday for Bengall, and saild this morning in Compa from hence, with two Generall letters to the Agent &ca Councill there wth a Stock in rupees and Tutenage to the amount of Pagods:

The President to indroduce the new Pagods orderd 2000 Pagods of Gold to be Coyn'd with that Stamp least ye neglecting it might loose or prejudice our priviledges thereof, hopeing allsoe to improve ye Mint Revenues by ye Moors Gold, they haveing a greater respect for their own Coyne then Gentue Pagods.

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1692*———

Briggantine Gingerlee imported from ffort St David Mr Peter Russell 29TH
Master, wth 24 Candy of Indicoe, charcole, firewood &ca Stores wch ye Warehousekeeper and Steward are orderd to unlade, alsoe a Generall lr̃e from ye Worspll Wm Hatsell Esqr &ca Councill adviseing us that King Rama Raja is fleed from Chingee to Carnatta wch puts his Subjects in great Consternation, and that ye moors, are very Strong and advanced more to ye Southward that tis supposed in a little time they will take Chingee.

The[y] write also for a supply of money, being low in Stock to carry on their Investmt & Repairing the breaches in their Garrison, The Deputy Governor recd advices from Ebraham Cawn Son to Seir Cawn, that Oramzeb has granted him Severll Countryes in those parts, all wch his ffather formerly enjoy'd.

Received a generall lr̃e from ye Rt Worspll Job Charnock Esqr Agent &ca SEPTEMBER
Councill in Bengall dated ye 2d July last adviseing they have secured 20000 maunds 4TH
of Salt Petre and that their Maulda goods being 30 Bales came too late to be sent home on ye Orange.

Recd a Generall from Mr Simon Holcombe Chief &ca Councill at Vizagapatam dated ye 8th August, with their Diary and Consultations of their Transactions since their being there, advising us, that Mr Daniell duBois & his accomplicyes have wronged ye Rt Honble Compa Considerably, for restitution whereof Mr Wm ffraser Warehousekeeper, is orderd to attach Mr Daniell du Bois's effects, in ye hands of Mr Thomas Grays Overseers &ca, and that they Designe to Dispatch ye Dorathy, wth what goods they have in redyness by ye 25th of last Month.

The Grand Vissier Assidd Cawn requireing our Sending him musters of our 6TH
new Coyns, to be Sattisfyed in their Stamp & Vallue tis orderd that 5 Gold Mohurs, 7 New Pagods and 11 Rupees &ca be sent him by Eman Cooley, he being Sent for to ye Camp, and that letters, be wrote by him to ye Vizzier and Nabob, adviseing thereof, and to minde them of hastning the Promist Phirmaund from ye Mogull for ye freedome of this place &ca Priviledges, & to oblige Eman Cooleys Dilligence therein tis orderd that he be Tashereft with a Coat Sash Sword and Belt, a small pockett looking glass and pair of Spectacles, sett in Silver, & five cases be sent ye Vizzeer according to his desire.

Shipp Curtania belonging to ye Armenians, Mr. Morgen Master Saild for Bengall.

Recd a letter from Nabob Zulfaker Cawn at Chingee, desireing the Presidt to 7TH
furnish him with tenn Gunners for ye Kings service and to supply them with what necessary.

Order[ed] that Briggantine Gingerlee, being much out of repair, be as soon as possibly Dispatcht to Vizagapatam to be well fitted there and that 5 Candys of Cotton and a pair of Scales and weights be sent them by her according to their desire.

This day the Mint Bramany Sheroff, Goldsmiths and Washers were Tashe- 8TH
reift wth 3 yards Perpetuanoes, and Sent to St Davids to carry on ye Mint buisness there, and a letter by them ordering ye Mint to be in ye Fort, and that their pagods be Coynd under ye Madrass Stamp, and a new one for fanms different from ye old one, to distinguish them from ye old base Counterfeit fanams, hopeing this change of minters & stamps may redeeme ye mints lost reputation.

Letters Sent to Governor Pitt, and ye Genll &ca at Battavia desireing, and ordering their delivery of ye Royall James Gunns to any Shipp that Should demand them by letter from England, Bencoolen or this place, they refuseing to deliver them to Capt Knox upon Mr ffleetwood &ca letter to them.

Briggantine Gingerlee Mr Peter Russell Master saild for Vizagapatam, and 10TH
carryed Stores for her repaire there, and about 5 Candy Cotton, alsoe our Generall letters to Mr Simon Holcombe Chief &ca Councill.

Recd a Generall lr̃e from Fort St David ye 7th Instant ꝑ boat accompanyed wth 18 Bales Callicoes of their new Investmt wch ye Warehousekeeper is orderd to unlade.

Shipp Sainta Roza belonging to Augustin Hart Inhabitant of this Place Saild 14TH
for Pegue.

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1692*———

THURSDAY 15TH

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESID^T & GOVERNOR
MR NATH^LL HIGGINSON M^R. W^M: FRASER.

The President read his acco^t Cash for the month of August wch was past errors excepted ye Ballance being pag^os 13971 : 17 :

Robert Cranwell Assistant to Mr Wavell late Rentall Gener^ll paid into ye Honble Comp^s Cash Pago^ds 133 in part of his Debt.

Mr William ffraser Warehousekeeper paid into Cash Pago^ds 500 for Rice &c^a Sold by him last month.

Mr Thomas Wright Provisionall Paymaster read his acco^t of Expences for ye month of July wch was past errors excepted.

Mr James Wheeler Prov^ll Land Customer read his acco^ts for ye month of August wch was past errors excepted & paid into ye Honble Comp^as Cash Pago^d 120 on acco^t Land Customes.

Mr John Pitt Prov^ll Storekeeper read his acco^ts for the Months of May June & July wch was past errors excepted.

Mr Nath^ll Higginson Present Sea Customer adviseing us there has been some former mistake in Vallueing the goods at the Custome house Viz^t: That Brown Cloth being brought into Town by Land pays y^e halfe Custome at y^e Chowtrey $2\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ cent upon its Vallue, wch Cloth being Manufactor'd in Town, by Painting Dying &c^a, upon Exportation is revallued by y^e Sea Customer who lately rec^d noe more then $2\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ cent on said Goods, in consideration of the Land Custome before paid, wch being noe Proportionable or reasonable method, tis orderd that y^e Sea Customer duely Vallues such goods paying 5 ℔ cent, only deducting y^e $2\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ cent formerly paid at y^e Land Custome.

Mr Natha^ll Higginson paid into y^e Honble Comp^as Cash Pag^os 2000 on acco^t Sea Customes formerly rec^d but the acco^ts are still behindhand being Transacted in Mr Tho: Grays time.

Orderd that if any Persons are desireous of Coyning in our Mint any of y^e new Sorts of Coyns lately granted by y^e Prince y^e Mint Master is orderd to receive their Gold into y^e Mint and Coyn it accordingly, they paying Mintage duty to y^e Honble Comp^a as followeth Viz^t:

Standard weight, & Mintage Dutyes of Madrass Coynes, 10 Matt equall to 24 Carretts.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ mill. Madrass old Seringray p^a $8\frac{5}{8}$: matt fine, alloy $1\frac{3}{8}$: $\frac{4}{5}$ Silver $\frac{1}{5}$ Copper pz 2^dwt: 4 $\frac{85}{100}$^grs at 5^pa: ℔ M^ll:

Ditto. New Pagoda Oremzeb—$9\frac{7}{8}$: matt fine, ... $\frac{1}{8}$ 1 : 22 at 5 ℔ d^o.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ mill. Gold Mohur Oremzeb—$9\frac{7}{8}$: matt fine, ... $\frac{1}{8}$ 7 : 2 at $2\frac{1}{2}$ ℔ d^o.

2 ℔ cent. Silver Rupee Oremzeb—$9\frac{3}{4}$ matt : fine, ... $\frac{1}{4}$ 7 : 11 at 2 ℔ cent.

Silver fanams Standard or Dollers fa : 30 ℔ oz. only y^e Comp^a

Gold fan^ms Seringray $4\frac{5}{16}$ fine alloy $5\frac{11}{16}$ poiz. 3 grains at 11 fa ℔ mill.

11 ℔ mill. The Warehousekeep^r. acquainting y^e Councill that y^e Bengall Wheat being much Damaged by whevels, tis orderd that it be sent to ffort St David by Boats.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

TUESDAY 27TH

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESID^T & GOVERNOR
MR NATH^LL HIGGINSON MR W^M FRASER.

Mr Nath^ll Higginson deliverd in his report of Mr Thomas Grays Mint acco^t wch he finds agreeable to ye Generall Books excepting 444 fan^ms for what short weight in that Coynage wch is to be made good by Mr Gray or the Minters, he also

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1692*—— [27TH]

read his Mint accots for the months of May, June, & July, and paid on that accot into ye Honble Compas Cash Pagods 148.

M Nathaniell Higginson alsoe read his Sea Custome accots for the month of August wch were past errors excepted and paid into ye Honble Compas Cash Pagods 438:3 on said accot.

Mr Alvares &ca ffreighters on ye Princes were acquainted wth ye Honble Compas Demands for seven days more demorage besides the tenn dayes they paid for so many dayes delay at Amoy beyond her Contracted time, wch they then insisted upon was by the force of ye Government, and therefore not their fault, & Mr Alvares &ca promises to give their further answer thereto for ye Honble Compas better Sattisfaction.

Mr William ffraser Warehousekeepr read his accots for the Month of August, wch was past errors excepted.

Rupees being cheaper then usall ye Warehouskeepr is orderd to buy to ye amount of Pagods 10000 : provided he can gett them at 355 Rupees ꝑ 100 pagods by tale & shrofft, and to gett as many of Surratt Rupees as he can, that they may be in a redyness to send for Bengall when occasion offers, if not may sell for Proffitt here.

The Warehousekeepr is orderd to buy 6 Candy Gance to make weights for this Place and the other ffactoryes the Iron & Lead being worne very faulty & past Service.

The joynt Stock Merchants haveing a Considerable quantity of Ordinary Neck cloths by them brought in upon last contract, but then refused, as not being agreeable to muster they being of ye Same Sort Soe pressingly demanded by ye Honble Company, and most vendable in England, twas therefore agreed that the Presidt & Councill doe goe to the Merchts Warehouse to View and make agreeable Mustars and prices for them that they may be sorted and Baled to Send home upon the Dorothy. Allsoe according to ye Honble Compas order to examine the Conimeere and Porto Novo blue Cloth, and ye St Davids white Longcloth and Indico lately recd from thence, and to make report of ye same. Orderd that the Accot Sallary now due be drawn out and paid.

Elihu Yale.
Nat : Higginson.
Will : Fraser.

The Honble Company in their Generall Letter of ye ꝑ Shipp Dorothy ordering the Disbanding one of our foot Companyes of Soldiers, wch was then deferd for ye Safety of the Garrison being in dayly expectation of a French ffleet upon the Coast, but soon after Leivt James Bett dying misserably by ye bite of a madd Dogg the Presidt divided the Europian Soldiers of the Company, Disbanding most of ye Portiguez & Topass Soldiers of that Company, Soe that according to their Honrs Order there are but two foot Companyes now in ye Garrison, each qts 100 men, wch are as few as can possibly keep our Guards, & with very hard Duty.

The Presidt recd a letter from ye Honble Lawrence Pitt Governor of Negapatam acquainting him that they had a Shipp arrived at Tuttecoree, directly from Europe 30TH which brought advices of 6 ffrench Shipps, being in redyness to Sett out for India in ye month of ffebruary last, and that at ye Cape there hapned a Vyolent Storme wherein two of their Shipps was Lost, and the Orange Capt Price Commander, belonging to the Rt Honble English East India Company, but few men were drowned, and much goods Saved, and that 9 of their Shipps in Company wth the Mary from China Departed thence for Europe in ye month of June.

Shipp Dorothy arrived from Vizagapatam upon wch came Mr. Simon Holcombe, Mr. Danll du Bois, Mr John Focquett & Mr. Joseph Chapman, wth a OCTOBER ꝑ MO. Generall letter, Bills of Ladeing & Invoice of her Cargoe, wth their Dyarys & Consultations &ca Accots.

Shipp Sampson Capt John Brumwell Commander Imported from England bound for Bengall.

MUNDAY Y^E 3RD.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1692*——

ATT A CONSULTATION

Present

ELIHU YALE ESQ^R PRESID^T & GOVERNO^R
NATH^LL HIGGINSON ESQ^R   MR WILLIAM FRASER.

Shipp Sampson arriveing from England Saturday night last being the 1st Instant, the Box of Letters & Packetts were brought ashore on Sunday, and deliverd as directed to Presid^t Higginson, who with Presid^t Yale &c^a Councill mett this morning in ye ffort to open the said box letters &c^a., wch accordingly was done but there being noe Commission to Presid^t Higginson therein, under the Honble Company, large Seal, nor any other yett rec^d by him from them and ye R^t Honble Company, their Commission to Presid^t Yale under their large Seal, dated ye 18th ffebruary 1690 being perused, tis there expressly said that it Should continue in force dureing their Pleasure, & untill ye Contrary thereof should be Signifyed from them the said Govern^r & Comp^a under their large Seal, wherefore tis hereby agreed that by reason ye letters &c^a are directed to President Higginson that he &c^a Councill manage their Mercantile Affaires, but that Presid^t Yale, cannot deliver up the Charge of the Governm^t, nor Presid^t Higginson receive it with Safety, till an authentick Commission arrives for that purpose.

ELIHU YALE.
NAT: HIGGINSON.
WILL: FRASER.

TO THE HON^BLE PRESIDENT
&C^A COUNCILL.

Tho tis unusuall and strange for particular members to give their answers or comments on publike papers Directed to the President and Councill, it arguing more of prejudice then reason, yett least my Silence should be imputed for guilt, I shall breifly reply to M^r ffrasers unjust accusations, & reflections, against me and my late address to your Hon^r &c^a in Vindication of my long & faithfull Services to my Honble Masters, and to clear my Selfe from those faults their Hon^rs are pleased to charge me with & expell me for, wch I humbly desire may be impartially and strictly examined, either by ye Merch^ts who are now in Town, or by any other wayes or testimonys you shall thinke fitt, or upon my Sacred Oath, and if I shall be found Corrupt, or unfaithfull to any trust has been committed to me, I am ready to make due restitution, nay willingly Suffer all the severest justice can inflict upon me, but this will not Serve my accuser I must be condemned without it, a most severe practice, & very disagreeable both to Law and reason, but I hope for a more equitable judgement from your Hon^r &c^a then from ye partiall sensures of his will and paper.

The first article whereof reflecting upon ye Honble President I will not presume to argue, since he wants not my weake Vindication, if himselfe thinks it worth his notice, Only I cannot but wonder M^r ffraser should soe much insist upon ye delivering Mr Gyfford and my Selfe a coppy of that parragraph of ye Honble Comp^as letter that dismist us, to be irregular, and impracticable, whereas if he pleased to enquire of ye Secretary he might have been informd that Mr Lucas, Mr Brown, Mr Grey, & Mr Trenchfield had it, & was never denyd to any that desird it, & why M^r ffraser should only exempt from it, can be from noe other reason but his prejudice since the Honble Comp^a have orderd all their Generall letters to be communicated to their ffactors, and tis well known that M^r ffraser has often talkt them publickly, but if he has any other charge against me then what their Hon^rs have been pleased to mention there, I am ready to answer it.

Next parragraph Stiles my address to be a bold & foule paper unfitt to be entred or regarded, wch I am noe wayes consious off to deserve such scurrilous epithites, haveing wrote nothing therein but truth wch I am ready to prove each

——FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1692—— [3RD]

perticular of, if soe pray where's the boldness or fault, has not ye meanest subject, ye freedome of Vindicating himselfe and cause in ye highest Courts of England, & must Mr ffraser here abridge me writeing the truth, in a cause that soe much concernes me, my family and reputation, If I have therein Said any thing maliciously or falsly, lett it be proved & me Suffer for it, no[w] as to Mr ffraser I was too favourable therein considering the many publick affronts threats & injuries he has done me, besides the private ones, wch may be guest at by his ranting discourses and threats against me, as for the entring my paper in ye Consultation book, it does not concerne me where or how it is disposed off, intending to present it to my Honble Masters, who I doubt not will have a just regard to its truth and reason, tho twas accustomary dureing my being Secretary and when of Councill, & Chief to enter all publicke addresses and petitions of moment in ye Consultation Book for ye Honble Compas readyer perusall and consideration and you see the President has ben soe regular therein as to enter all the rude papers even against himselfe.

Nextly he positively charges all the fault of ye Conimeere & Porto Novo Cloth on me, tho tis a well known truth that I sorted not one quarter part of it, nor one peece of ye Porto Novo goods or scarcely ever saw any of that Cloth, soe that Mr ffrasers error & mallice is apparent herein, what I sorted of the Conimeere Cloth was mostly a low number, and to ye best of my judgment agreeable to Muster, wch I can safely swear, and that I made noe private advantage thereby.

His next parragraph is much worse, and looks if he had & would forgett all truth to carry on his unworthy endeavours to asperse me, there declareing our Contract with ye Merchants to be bad and much worse then formerly, and the prices of ye Cloth deerer then that of ye same sorts here, and that bad debts were made therein the Merchants being under noe Obligation &ca all wch he affirmes to be truth, and I the contrary, soe begg your Honrs &ca to judge of our integritys thereby and reward us accordingly and first for ye Investment wch formerly in Mr Willcox & Mr Holcombs time, had allwayes a considerable quantity of fine goods by wch tis well known, the Merchants were ye greatest gainers, soe that our Contract notwithstanding Mr ffrasers erronious detractions has exceeded all former Contracts there, for the following reasons & Instances, first that ours was for Course goods at low prices notwithstanding the Country troubles, as allsoe the great demand for them, as well by the Dutch and ffrench for Europe, as by private Merchants for their India trade, Secondly they had but halfe ready money, and the Europe Cloth &ca put off to them at such rates that tis a well known truth that they lost near 20 ℘ cent by it, besides wt decayed on their hands, next that they had a shorter time for the provission of ye goods then usually, and were under the penalty of 25 ℘ cent for failure therein, tho Mr ffraser peremptorily declares there was noe Contract Sign'd, tho the contrary is apparent under the Merchants hands and Seales, and notwithstanding ye troubles wch ye Mogulls Army brought to Chengy, wch is noe pretence as Mr ffraser would make it, the whole Country being sad testimonyes of it by their sufferings yett ye merchants brought in to ye full amot of their Contract and more, had not we turned out soe many Thousand peeces of their Cloth, and noe money advanct to them but as they brought in their goods, wch was our Obligation & Contract and everywhere accustomary, & I begg your Honrs &ca seriously and impartially to consider the circumstances we were under & that noe more could be done as to ye sortment then was excepting nothing, wch would have been a much greater loss & disappointmt to ye Honble Compa then it has prov'd, for of about 600 Bales wee received from ye Merchants at Conimeere & Porto Novo there was not one Bale of the head sort No 3 nor above 10 of ye second sort No 2 but all of ye lowest and cheapest Sort No 1 for wch wee had never any muster there, nor any where else that I know of soe sorted it by judgment and being the meanest No commonly took in most that fell below the other Musters, tho from that likewise we turned out many thousand peeces to ye Merchants great dissatisfaction and clamour, and in my consience I could doe noe more then I did therein, and I hope others did

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[3RD] the same, we likewise advised ye President &c^a of the condition of the cloth, but were never orderd to desist from receiving it but only to take ye best, wch I am sure was done.

M^r ffraser alsoe affirmes that ye Longcloth Musters of Conimeere and Porto Novo are equall to those here, and that our cloth is dearer and higher priz'd then this, to his first assertion I can only give my opinion that the musters I found at those places (wch I beleive are the same sent hence) are inferiour to these, it being difficult to gett two Such Substantiall throughly good peeces of Cloth as these Musters N° 3 & 2 except they are purposely made for it but I cannot but wonder M^r ffraser should insist upon soe apparent an error that every Invoice will condradict him in, but he sticks at nothing to attaine his ends, but to evince his malicious errors, I here enter the severall prices & Differences vizt.

	No. 3.	No. 2.	No. 1.		
M : L : C :	Pago^{ds} : 25 30 3—	Pago^{ds} : 24 18—	Pago^{ds} : 22—	Blue P : 28 27—	bro. P : 24 18 :
C : L : C :	... ...	22 32 3	20 25 5	26 29 5	20 25 5
Difference ℘ Corge		1 22	1 10 1	1 33 1	32 8 1

	N°. 9.		N°. 3.
M : Sa :	P : 11 10 ½	.. ..	P : 10 29 1
C : Sa :	P : 10 1	... ...	P : 9 21 3
Difference ℘ Corge	P : 1 10	... ...	P : 1 7 4

Thus your hon^{rs} &c^a may see how M^r ffrasers prejudice frames mistakes to lessen me and my Services, he alsoe accuses me for makeing bad Debts, wch is alsoe erronious, the Porto Novo & Conimeere Merchants being sufficiently responsible to discharge their acco^{ts} wth ye Honble Comp^a and whatever they pretend tis only their Shuffling pollicy to be pittyed and favourd in the penalty & interest they being ye Same Merchants that formerly supplyd ye Honble Comp^a with goods at interest, and for their failure in the Contract twas occasioned by our turning out soe much of their Cloth, however with submission, at both places Conimeere & Porto Novo together they are not soe much Short in their Contracts as the Madras Merchants are still of theirs, tho commenct before us, I begg your Hon^r &c^{as} pardon for my freedome herein, but M^r ffrasers reflections forces me to mention it for my defence, as alsoe another remarkeable instance of his equity and candor to me as follow's, when our Cloth was soe much complained of, the President orderd a publick examination thereof, and went himself wth ye Councill &c^a to view it, when after many various opinions & loud compl^{nts} the Presid^t to try their inclinations and judgments privately orderd the Conicoply to open 3 or 4 Bales of Madrass Long cloth, Severall peeces whereof being brought him he askt Messrs Wavell & ffraser their opinions of it, who after due examination replyd twas damnd Stuff 20 ℘ cent worse then Muster, & unfitt to be sent home, where upon he calld for the ticketts in Said Bales, wch haveing their names thereto (being sorted by them) they were something Surprized, but boldly swore & laught out ye mistake, and this sure M^r ffraser will not deny their being soe many testimonyes of it, By this your Hon^r &c^a may judge with what prejudice they were preposest even to ye condemning their own workes for mine, soe that I have too much reason to beleive their clamours chiefly sprang from thence tho noe doubt there was some accidentall peeces of bad cloth among soe great a quantity, the Stricktest Sortment cannot avoid [it] from mistakes & tricks by the black fellows in baleing, but they doe not rightly consider the cheapness of ye Cloth and lowness of its Nomber, the most of it costing not above 21 pago^{ds} ℘ corge wch sold for about 28 pago^{ds} wch he would alsoe cavill at, complaining the cloth was sold to dear, and that ye buyers were great loosers, & grant they were (wch he is not certaine of) what does this concerne the Honble Comp^a or the buisness Since if ye Merchants had gained never soe much by it, the Comp^a would have been little the better for

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it, besides ye bargaine was Voluntary & faire, the Presidt forct it upon no man, & ye Armenians who brought allmost all of it, are a people that will not easily be imposed upon, or be perswaded out of their mony if they can possibly Save it or anywhere buy cheaper, there was alsoe 182 Bales of ye Same Investment and sorts of Cloth Sent home by the Dorathy, and not a word of complaint when twas examined here, nor any that I heare of from England, but of the contrary that it sold well & to great advance as ye rest might have done, and doubt not what remaines will doe.

As to ye 12 Bales Blue cloth sent to Acheen & Bencoolen I know nothing of it, therefore can say little to it, only that ye blue Comeeses are a propperer Commodity and more Vendible at Acheen then that, but all sorts of cloth that yeare sold but meanly, and some to loss, but I hear noe Complaints of it from Bencoolen, but rather that it sold as well as others did, wch Mr Griffith now here can give the best accot of, Tho I thinke that was chiefly design'd for the Compas Slaves there.

I profess I know not what Mr ffraser means by Bales Sent to my house and opend, there never haveing been any such thing to my knowledge, and as to his question who sorted the Bales the ticketts in them will resolve him, some whereof were Signd by my self, and Mr Gyfford, but most of ye Conimeere goods by him, & Mr Meverell, and all the Porto Novo Bales by Mr Bett & Mr Owen &ca as appears by their ticketts, but I am certaine that I sorted none of them and but few of ye others.

I never received or heard any order of ye Honble Compas, that Chiefs should sort the Cloth, indeed to inspect that & all other imploys under his charge is his duty, as farr his time will ℘mit but to apply himselfe to that and neglect the rest is not required there being persons in all ffactoryes particularly appointed to that buisness, who are answerable for it, as others are for ye Severall employs they are entrusted with being under covenants and Security to ye Honble Compa for it, otherwise if Chiefs were answerable for ye neglects and faults of others, a Cheifship or Presidency would be a hazzardous dangerous charge.

I know not ye reason why Mr ffraser has not seen ye Conimeere Books except it be that he never enquired for them, they haveing been here ever since Mr Gyffords arrivall, who had ye charge of ym wch is about 2 years past, but tis well knowne Mr ffraser trouble himselfe little with books of accots.

There being little or no buisness at Conimeere and our goods being sent to Madrass to lessen the charge of ye ffactory I requested leave to come thither, or rather to be dischargd from ye Place, since I found ye Gentlemen at ye ffort soe inveterate against me continualy reflecting upon my conduct and management [of] affaires, soe that I plainly saw nothing would Satisfie but my removall wch was readily granted me, and upon my arrivall I humbly offerd my Service to ye President &ca and soone after I wth the Conimeere Merchants were called before them upon examination about ye Investment, wch I suppose is registred in Consultation, tho Mr ffraser possitively affirms the contrary to all, he is alsoe mistaken in saying that Chiefs have not the Companyes allowance, when they are permitted to come hither on their own occasons he means the charge of their journey is their own not ye Honble Compas, but twas never known that any of their Servants was denyd Sallary or allowances till they were dischargd the service, & Mr ffraser never Scrupled the paying it to severall persons that have done less service then I have, but tis his humor to wrong me tho I doubt not of justice from your Honr &ca.

But I am very sorry Mr ffraser Should publish a buisness that will not be much for his applause in accuseing me with my own faults, Since I never neglected paying him all respects [proper to] his place [and station, till I often found they were return'd [only] with scornfull disregards and Slites, never Stirring his [not to my] Salutes but only to cock it, wch indeed made me ashamd & [averse] of Stirring myne, beleiveing by his Stiffness that he did not [desire] the Cerimony

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from me, but I am not y[e] single person he [has] affronted with his rude Carriage, there is many Sober person [in the] towne complains of it, tho I never did till now, & therefore [he . . .] much mistaken in the hand of Joab, but these absurditys shall [. . .] his temper, I am sure his Superiours and betters nor any Gentlemen has ever denyd that common curtesy to y[e] meanest Christian that pays it, soe begging your Hon[r] &c[as] just examination of these papers, and to pardon me for my prolixity w[ch] I could not avoid with any satisfaction to M[r] ffrasers tedious charge, soe Remaine

Hon[ble] &c[a]
Your hon[rs] &c[a] Most Obed[t] faithfull Servant
JOHN NICKS.

Fort S[t] George
Septem[br] 30th 1692.

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